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LAST MALE STANDING
metronews

Ducks duke it out with Jets

Winnipeg Jets goalie Ondrej Pavelec blocks a shot by Anaheim Ducks centre Ryan Kesler in the first period of Game 1 in their first-round playoff series in Anaheim Wednesday. The Jets lost 4-2 despite working hard throughout the game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RWB fires man after dancers' allegations

ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET

Police probe photos of ballet dancers

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet has dismissed an instructor amid a police investigation into complaints that nude photos were taken of former female dance students.

The ballet company announced Thursday it had parted ways with Bruce Monk, who was named by Maclean's magazine as being under investigation for allegedly taking nude and semi-nude photos of teenage female students in the 1980s and '90s.

The magazine reported it had spoken with four women who said Monk took photos of them when they were under 18.

Ballet executive director Jeff Herd said the company learned of the police probe in January.

"We became aware of the investigation on Jan 7. On Jan. 8, Bruce was put on administrative, paid leave while the police did their investigation, which I believe is ongoing."

This week, the ballet went a step further and severed ties with Monk, Herd said.

Winnipeg police said the investigation was nearly complete and the Crown was being consulted as to the next steps.

Police released few details, other than to say there are several alleged victims, one unnamed male suspect and the events date back more than 20 years, when privacy and pornography laws were different.

Attempts to reach Monk Thursday were not immediately successful.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Man charged with bank robbery, car-jacking
Winnipeg police have arrested a man they say robbed two banks and car-jacked a woman's vehicle in the span of five days last week.

After an investigation by the Major Crimes Unit, Andrew Mark Arnaud, 29, of Winnipeg is facing a list of charges.

METRO

Alleged robber busted
Police say an ambitious robber is behind bars after he knocked over two banks Wednesday.

Officers were able to track down the suspect shortly after a bank in the 600 block of Notre Dame Avenue and another in the 1700 block of Ellice Avenue were robbed within an hour of each other Wednesday afternoon.

Jamie Captain, 36, is facing a number of charges.

METRO

Party turns violent
Police have charged a teenage boy and a woman with assault after an ejected party guest returned Tuesday night armed and looking to fight.

After a guest was chased from the home, police say, the guest returned with another assailant armed with weapons.

Three people were assaulted, causing serious injuries, according to police.

METRO

Alleged predator facing new child-porn charges

CRIME

Police say videos show kids changing in a bathroom

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

A St. Vital man charged with Internet luring last summer is facing a slew of new charges after police say they found years worth of homemade child pornography at his residence.

The 53-year-old man was arrested last July when he was caught up in an online investigation targeting adults trying to engage young people in sexual activity.

After his arrest, police executed a searched warrant at the man's home and found a "large quantity" of videos on electronic storage devices, according to police spokesman Const. Jason Michalyshen.

CHARGES

The man is facing 13 charges of voyeurism and 11 counts of making, printing, publishing or possession of child pornography for the purpose of publication.

"Since that time we've been sifting through those devices and we've located a huge amount of video that we had to go through painstakingly over a long period of time," said Michalyshen. "As a result of that investigation, these are the additional charges."

Michalyshen said the videos date back seven years from the time of the man's arrest and involved 13 victims, 11 of whom were between the ages of eight and 13 at the time.

Police allege the man secretly recorded the children and two adults in a washroom at his house while they got changed to use a pool in his backyard.

Police are not releasing the names of the victims. Michalyshen didn't rule out the possibility that some are related to the accused.

"Anything is possible," he said. "I'm not going to speculate."

Police continue to investigate and are working to identify the victims.

Anyone with information is asked to call investigators at 204-986-6172.

NHL PLAYOFFS

POLICE PREDICT JETS WIN IN SIX

Winnipeg police spokesman Const. Jason Michalyshen wasn't shy about who he's cheering for in the NHL playoffs at Thursday's police briefing. After reading the news of the day, Michalyshen donned a Winnipeg Jets jersey and told media the Jets would beat the Anaheim Ducks in six games on their march to the Stanley Cup.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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DONATIONS

Project Undies collecting new gitch

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

Whether you call them gitch, gotch or tighty-whiteys, putting on a fresh pair of undies is an important part of everyone's daily routine.

But not everyone can afford underwear, and that bothers Lindsay Galley.

The Winnipegger has started a campaign taking donations and collecting new underwear, socks, long-johns, undershirts, bras and pajamas to give to local homeless shelters.

"Those are the sorts of things no one wants to wear used; everyone wants new underwear," Galley said Thursday of the effort she's calling Project Undies. "Underwear and bras especially are things that people don't think to donate as much."

Donations can be dropped off at Kids & Company daycare at 158 Fort St. from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. Galley said she'll also drive to pick up large donations.

After collecting gotch for a couple months, Galley recently dropped off her first load to Siloam Mission, which told Metro it's something they're always in need of.

"You wake up in the morning, and what's the first thing you do? You put on underwear and get dressed. But for people who don't have a drawer full of those items, they don't get that," said Siloam's Reagen Peters. "That's why we ask for new underwear and new bras because of the dignity that goes along with that."

For more information, follow @projectundies on Twitter.

> **We ask for new underwear and new bras because of the dignity that goes along with that.**
> Reagen Peters

Siloam Mission communication co-ordinator Reagen Peters, left, and clothing program co-ordinator Laura Everett hold up donated new underwear in the mission's clothing storage room Thursday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Singer Tracy Bone will perform at the Gathering of Nations Powwow for the second time, which represents a milestone in a personal healing journey. CONTRIBUTED

Journey leads 'Peg singer to powwow

MUSIC

Tracy Bone hitting the stage at three-day festival

Eva Wasney
Metro | Winnipeg

For Winnipeg singer Tracy Bone, performing at the world's largest powwow for the second time is a milestone in a personal healing journey.

When Bone hits the stage at the Gathering of Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, N.M., on April 24, she will perform with a new understanding of what she calls her dysfunctional history.

"In my opinion, the most difficult thing I've ever done in my life was to face myself," said Bone. "Today (I'm) completely different musically and personally; I think I appreciate (the opportunity) a lot more."

Both her grandmothers attended residential schools, and Bone said her family still feels the effects of their experiences.

The country-inspired singer uses music as an emotional outlet.

"(Country) had a big influence on me because of its storytelling and values, and it allows you to dig deep," said Bone.

She has been focusing on music full-time for the past seven years and has performed at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Bone also received the Songwriter of the Year award at the 2009 Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards.

Bone typically performs solo but she will be on stage with her partner, who plays the drums, and his son, who plays guitar.

Her set is part of the powwow's Stage 49 lineup, which features contemporary music, dance and comedy routines.

The three-day powwow is an annual celebration of indigenous culture and attracts thousands of people from over 700 tribes in North America.

Attendees experience traditional food, dancing and indigenous dress complete with feathers, bells, jingles and fringes.

FUTURE

Bone is working on her third album, which she hopes to release later this year, and will be performing at Flin Flon's National Aboriginal Day celebrations.

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What's your MyPlan type?

Take this quiz to learn how you should actually customize your MyPlan.

1 You're jamming to your favourite track and the phone rings. You...

a) Pick it up, obviously.

b) Take the call, but keep it short.

c) See who it is, if it's important you'll take it.

d) Ignore the call, your favourite song is playing.

2 What image looks the most like your typical Friday night?

3 Your phone dies when you're out. You...

a) Don't even notice.

b) Ask around for a charger.

c) Borrow a phone if it's an emergency.

d) Go home, gotta charge.

4 A friend sends you a video of a toddler singing that song from that cartoon with the princesses and the snowman. You...

a) Watch it when you get home.

b) Probably don't watch it.

c) Watch it immediately.

d) Watch it, send it to your mom, and share it online.

5 You're out for dinner and you get a new message. You...

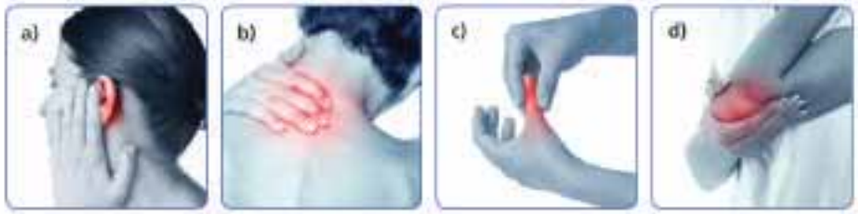
a) What message? Your phone is off.

b) Wait until dinner is over, you've got manners.

c) Excuse yourself to the bathroom and read the message.

d) Ask your dinner companion if they mind that you read it.

6 What smartphone discomfort are you most likely to experience?



7 An unknown number calls you. You...

a) Pick it up, of course.

b) Ignore. That's what voice mail is for.

c) Pick it up but pretend you're not you.

d) Ignore and web search the number.

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GOVERNMENT CARE

Family of assaulted teen has questions

The family of a 15-year-old girl who was seriously assaulted while in government care says she was a talented musician with a bright future who needed extra support.

Instead, they say, the girl was placed in a downtown Winnipeg hotel and is now in hospital clinging to life after the April 1 attack. A boy who was also in the care of Child and Family Services at the same hotel is facing charges.

The girl's family gathered at the hospital Wednesday and made the agonizing decision to unhook the machines keeping her alive.

Family friend Grand Chief David Harper, who represents northern Manitoba First Nations, said the girl's relatives turned to family services for help after she fell in with the wrong crowd. Now they want to know how things could have gone so wrong.

"She won a scholarship (for) music. That young girl had a lot of potential," Harper said Thursday. "They were there to look for help. Instead of giving her that help ... they put her in hotels."

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross declined to be interviewed. Her spokeswoman, Rachel Morgan, said the government is putting more money into helping families and children without formally taking them into care.

Winnipeg police say they will look at upgrading charges if the victim's condition changes.

Harper said some kids he has spoken to say they would rather be in police custody than in government care.

"Some of the girls in the youth centre say they don't want to go out because they don't want to be put in the hotel. They know it's not safe to be in hotels," he said.

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Coun. Matt Allard hopes his riverside lookout will get funding by 2016 after the executive policy committee voted against a funding option Wednesday. EVA WASNEY/METRO

Lookout plans hit rough spot

DEVELOPMENT

Funding plan for St. Boniface project denied by committee

Eva Wasney
For Metro | Winnipeg

Plans to build a riverside lookout in St. Boniface have run ashore for now.

The city's executive policy committee (EPC) voted unanimously at Wednesday's meeting against allocating $550,000 to the Tache Promenade project from the sale of another St. Boniface property.

Last month, a civic committee suggested 25 per cent of the revenue from the $2.02-million sale of a public works yard at 825 Tache Ave. go toward the project.

"I thought it made strategic sense," said Coun. Matt Allard. "It's almost a stone's throw away from the property being sold to the public works project I hope to see developed soon."

The $4.4-million Tache Promenade project would give the public a treetop view of downtown Winnipeg's skyline.

The project has now been referred to the city's 2016 capital budget.

The delayed funding is a blow for Allard, but he isn't ready to jump ship just yet.

"I saw a lot of support at the table from EPC, including from Mayor Bowman," he said. "They were more concerned about the process than the project itself."

Funding for projects like this usually comes from the city's general land operating reserve, which finances citywide community projects. Allard had hoped to take money from one property in his ward and apply it to another.

The Winnipeg Foundation has committed $1 million to building the lookout, but Allard isn't sure how long that money will be available.

Allard thinks the lookout will be a huge tourist draw and he has referred to the location's prime view of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights as Winnipeg's best selfie spot.

WITH FILES FROM BERNICE PONTANILLA

Man arrested in River Heights vehicle break-in

PROJECT COMET

Police continue fight to stop wave of similar crimes

Winnipeg police are under no illusion that the arrest of a man allegedly caught trying to break in to cars in River Heights Monday will stop a rash of similar crimes in the neighbourhood.

But police spokesperson Const. Jason Michalyshen says it's a good start.

"We know the impact arresting even just one individual can have on a community. These individuals are commonly very active and can engage a number of vehicles in the course of one evening," Michalyshen said Thursday.

Police say a man caught trying to open car doors on Oak Street Monday was charged in connection with a similar break-in a week earlier that saw credit cards stolen from an unlocked vehicle nearby.

"We're very pleased to acknowledge this arrest (but) our work isn't complete," Michalyshen said.

The man was caught by officers patrolling the area as part of Project Comet, the force's ongoing co-ordinated effort to tackle property crime in West Winnipeg started last May.

As well as increased patrols, Project Comet has seen officers go door-to-door talking to residents about what they can do to prevent vehicle break-ins, car thefts and vandalism.

Michalyshen couldn't say whether the man arrested this week was responsible for other crimes, and he acknowledged police face an uphill battle fighting property crime in the area.

"We have to be optimistic … but we don't have our heads buried in the sand either. We realize if there's one individual, there's always potentially more," he said. "We don't stop because we made an arrest; we're going to continue to be active in that community."

Nathan Mowchun, 21, is charged with theft under $5,000, possession of break-in instruments and four counts of fraud under $5,000.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

SPORTS VOLUNTEERS HAILED In honour of National Volunteer Week and the upcoming 50-day countdown to the FIFA Women's World Cup, Mayor Brian Bowman is joined by event volunteers, the tournament's official mascot Shuéme and Winnipeg's venue team at city hall Thursday. CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

Girl's would-be donor not a match, testing finds

A Winnipeg woman who offered to donate part of her liver to an 11-year-old girl has found out she is not a match.

Allexis Siebrecht needs a liver transplant within six to 12 months.

Samantha Lussier, 24, stepped up to donate and, after meeting most of the requirements, went to Toronto last weekend to undergo more tests.

Those tests determined Lussier is not a match.

The search for a donor with type-O blood is continuing.

Allexis suffers from biliary atresia, which impedes bile transport from the liver to the small intestine.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Manitoba warns of increased wildfire risk

The Manitoba government is warning people that the risk of wildfires is increasing because of dry, warm and windy conditions.

As a precaution, the province has banned all motorized off-road and backcountry travel from noon to 7 p.m. in parts of southeastern Manitoba.

The restrictions do not include Whiteshell Provincial Park.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship says crews have already responded to a number of serious wildfires this week.

Some municipalities have imposed burning bans and more are expected to do so in the coming days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Draft dodgers left their mark

VIETNAM WAR

Objectors were 'best-educated group' ever to immigrate

When 22-year-old Bill King returned home to Indiana in 1968 to visit his parents after a stint as Janis Joplin's music director, the FBI was there waiting for him.

King's father, a Second World War veteran who landed at Normandy, helped negotiate a deal with the agents, who had been travelling around the United States looking for Vietnam War draft dodgers.

"If I agreed to go in the military, (the FBI) agreed to drop the charges of draft evasion," King, 68, said in an interview from Toronto ahead of the 40th anniversary of the end of the war on April 30.

King spent the next 10 months at two army bases before fleeing the night before he was to be sent off to Vietnam. He then hitchhiked to Canada, joining thousands of other draft dodgers between 1965 and 1975 who made the journey north of the border.

While it is still unclear how many men and women sought sanctuary in Canada — the country labelled draft dodgers as immigrants, as opposed to refugees — the federal government estimates up to 40,000 made the journey.

Most stayed after the war, "making up the largest, best-educated group this country ever received," says an archived report on the Citizenship and Immigration website.

King, an award-winning musician, producer and broadcaster, said the stories he heard from returning soldiers convinced him that he had to leave.

Not long after reporting to Fort Knox in Kentucky and joining the army band, King received a warning from a sergeant who had returned from Vietnam.

King said the sergeant told him how the army used its band to play music during U.S. inoculation campaigns in Vietnamese villages.

"They'd use (villagers) as guinea pigs, and they would use the band as a way to lure them out," he said.

"The band would go marching into these communities, and the first thing that would happen is somebody would fire on the band and kill the front row."

Another American musician, Eric Nagler, who later found fame as a regular on The Elephant Show with Sharon, Lois and Bram, crossed from Vermont into Quebec in 1968 at the age of 26.

"I refused to kill anybody," Nagler said in an interview from his home outside Toronto. "The war was hideously ugly."

Jack Todd, a well-known sports columnist with the Montreal Gazette, fled the United States in January 1970.

"I was 100 per cent convinced the war was wrong," said Todd, 68. "It was probably illegal and definitely immoral and hugely murderous and unwinnable."

Nagler, 72, gave himself up to authorities when he returned to the United States to help his family after his father-in-law died.

He was sentenced to three years in prison but was acquitted on appeal. Despite the acquittal and the eventual pardon of draft dodgers by then-president Jimmy Carter in 1977, Nagler came back to Canada and settled.

"In Canada, the worst that we had was the French-English problem, and it just pales in comparison to the kind of lynches and hatred and persecution that goes on in the U.S.," he said. "This is a much, much better place to be."

King, Nagler and Todd are but a few examples of the legacy the Vietnam draft dodgers left in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bill King and his wife Kris pose at their Toronto home on April 14. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"I was 100 per cent convinced the war was wrong."**
> Jack Todd, sports columnist

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Makeup artist Jacqueline Lambert takes the stand at the Mike Duffy trial in Ottawa on Thursday. GREG BANNING/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Makeup for politicians

DUFFY TRIAL

Services paid by Duffy's friend's company, Crown alleges

The cost of Stephen Harper's makeup for a public event in 2010 was covered by a fund at the heart of several criminal charges being faced by suspended senator Mike Duffy, court heard Thursday.

Duffy and the prime minister had their makeup done ahead of a G8/G10 event on Parliament Hill and the $300 bill was paid by Maple Ridge Media, a company established by Duffy's friend Gerald Donohue. The Crown alleges Donohue was given $65,000 worth of taxpayer money to help Duffy skirt Senate rules. Last week, a government source told The Canadian Press that the makeup services Harper received that day weren't paid for by taxpayers.

On Thursday, Jacqueline Lambert — the makeup artist — contradicted that assertion on the witness stand.

"On this occasion of the G8, did Prime Minister Harper pay you anything for the services he received, or did you take the $300 to be payment in respect to the services you provided the prime minister?" asked Duffy's lawyer Donald Bayne.

"Yes, your latter," Lambert answered.

Court has already been told the $300 was a flat-rate fee that would not have changed regardless of whether one or two people had their makeup done.

Lambert was on the stand to testify about doing Duffy's makeup on two occasions after he was appointed to the Senate. Payments she received for both are the basis for two of the fraud charges Duffy is facing.

In March 2009, Lambert did Duffy's makeup for a formal photo shoot and sent him the bill. In a letter to Duffy the following month, the Senate informed him such expenses were not covered by their reimbursement policies. When she was called by Duffy in 2010 to do his makeup for the G8/G10 event, Duffy told her to send the invoice to Maple Ridge Media instead.

A copy of the invoice Lambert sent wasn't submitted as evidence; her computer crashed and she no longer had a copy, court was told. She said that it would have referenced services provided to both Duffy and Harper. A copy of the cheque she received indicated that it came from Donohue's company. On the envelope, there was a notation that it was for "PM and Mike."

The original contracts between Duffy and Donohue stated they were for editorial services, but the Crown has alleged those services were never delivered, with the money being funnelled to cover costs Duffy couldn't expense to the Senate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NO COMMENT

The Prime Minister's Office did not respond to a request for comment.

TORONTO

Adventurous raccoon climbs skyscraper

A death-defying raccoon is causing a sensation in Toronto for its long climb up a towering downtown skyscraper.

Social media is lighting up with a photo of the furry adventurer peering from between the metallic rungs of a crane about 58 storeys high. The photo was snapped by a Toronto crane operator who has a popular Twitter stream that showcases photos of the city from high above.

Known as RobMac on Twitter, he says it's not the first time he's seen evidence of raccoons high on the crane. One jokester tweeted that the raccoons are now coming after the jobs of Torontonians, not just their garbage.

RobMac estimates the raccoon climbed about 213 metres to its destination overnight.

The critter calmly climbed back down the crane this morning after he yelled at it to leave, RobMac says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

This little critter is causing a sensation in Toronto after it climbed up a downtown skyscraper. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Detainee not cleared to return to Canada

KHALED AL-QAZZAZ

Family being held by airport security with no explanation

The family of an ailing Mississauga, Ont., man detained in Egypt for more than a year is not yet being allowed to return to Canada.

Khaled Al-Qazzaz's family earlier said the father of four had received all of the needed documents to leave Egypt and expected to arrive in Toronto on Thursday.

But late Wednesday, Al-Qazzaz's brother-in-law said Al-Qazzaz, his wife Sarah and their four children were stopped at Cairo's airport and told they could not leave.

The statement from Ahmad Attia also said their passports were taken and savings intended for Al-Qazzaz's medical costs were confiscated.

The family has said returning to Canada would mean the 35-year-old would soon be able to have much-needed surgery in Ontario for a severe spinal condition, said to be related to his detention.

"There has been no explanation by Airport Security Services as to why the family is currently being held," said Attia.

"Sarah and the children are extremely exhausted and distressed by the current circumstances."

Al-Qazzaz, a University of Toronto engineering graduate, was once an aide to Egypt's ousted president Mohammed Morsi and was arrested alongside the former leader in July 2013, when the Egyptian military removed Morsi from office.

Al-Qazzaz was never charged, nor did Egyptian authorities explain why they had arrested him.

He was released from custody in January.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sarah Attia, wife of Khaled Al-Qazzaz, detained without charges in Egypt for the last nine months, attends a news conference in Ottawa on April 29, 2014. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MOUNTIE SHOOTINGS

Accused was known to officer's family

An Alberta RCMP officer had met the man later charged with trying to kill him when the Mountie's wife hired him to snap some smiling family portraits.

But on Feb. 7, 2012, Const. Sidney Gaudette had a search warrant and was tasked with arresting the photographer, Sawyer Robison, because it was believed he had given a gun to a friend that had been used a few days earlier in a domestic assault.

Gaudette testified Thursday he and Robison were in the living room of Robison's farm house near Killam, southeast of Edmonton, and that Robison had put his hands up to surrender.

But Robison then lowered his arms and went rigid, said Gaudette. The officer next caught sight of a second man in the home and felt there could be trouble.

Gaudette turned slightly to speak into a radio microphone on his shoulder and asked two other Mounties waiting outside for help. That's when he heard an officer standing next to him yell: "Gun! Gun! Gun!"

"And then I immediately felt the pain," said Gaudette. "The pain kind of felt like I had been hit inside with a baseball bat."

The 32-year-old told court he then heard multiple gun shots and dashed back outside. Const. Sheldon Shah, who had also been hit, stumbled out the front door and fell to the ground. Another officer dragged Shah into a backseat and they all raced to the hospital.

Gaudette said he had only had positive experiences with Robison before the shooting. In 2011, the photographer did portraits of Gaudette and his pregnant wife. The following year, he took photos of the couple with their new daughter at a nearby lake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BACKGROUND

Robison, 30, has pleaded not guilty to attempted murder, assault causing bodily harm and several weapons-related charges. He had earlier faced another charge of second-degree murder in the death of his uncle, Bradford Clarke, but that charge was discontinued during a preliminary hearing.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

UBC researcher helps best-selling author with latest novel

When Alicia Semaka found out her favourite author was writing a book about "inherited neurodegenerative disease and genetic fate," she knew she had to find a way to lend her expertise.

"I just knew it was about Huntington's disease," she told Metro. "I gave a squeal for joy. I was so excited."

The University of B.C. researcher, a genetic counsellor who has a PhD on Huntington's disease, or HD, had just finished reading New York Times bestselling author Lisa Genova's third novel, Love Anthony, when she came across a Q&A with the author at the back of the book mentioning the upcoming project.

Semaka immediately felt compelled to reach out to Genova and offer to share her knowledge.

"I just wanted to make sure she got it right," she said. "It's a devastating disease. It's not a pretty disease, so as much as you want to tell the truth, you want to do it with a grain of respect and tact."

A quick Google search yielded the contact information for Genova's literary agent and publicist, and soon after the author emailed her back.

"It happened really fast," she said. "We had a couple of phone conversations and email exchanges, and I shared with her my experience and knowledge. She was very receptive."

To help give the author an accurate portrayal of the disease, Semaka said she described "nuanced" facts of HD not easily found in academic textbooks.

One conversation focused on a unique characteristic of HD that continues to perplex scientists: that when HD patients sleep, they don't have many of the large, involuntary movements they have when they are awake.

"That was a conversation that made it into the book, which I thought was kind of neat," she said. "She really helps give a face to Huntington's disease."

Semaka, who received an advance edition of the novel, said she hopes the book helps promote awareness of HD as well as genetic counselling, an often-misunderstood profession that aims to help patients understand the medical and psychological implications of genetic diseases.

"There's probably millions of people who will pick up this book and who have never heard of Huntington's disease before," she said. "That's going to help generate awareness, and that's a great thing."

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

Alicia Semaka
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

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SAGUENAY, QUE.

Mayor will comply with prayer ruling

The Quebec mayor who would recite a prayer at the beginning of municipal council meetings expressed surprise Thursday at the Supreme Court's unanimous ruling that the practice must be stopped.

Saguenay Mayor Jean Tremblay said he will comply with the judgment, even though he doesn't agree with it.

"I respect the decision, and we will stop the prayer, for sure, but I can't be in agreement with it after having fought for so long," he told a news conference.

The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that the reading of a Catholic prayer at council meetings infringes on freedom of conscience and religion. Canadian society has evolved and given rise to a "concept of neutrality according to which the state must not interfere in religion and beliefs," the judgment said.

> **Being neutral does not necessarily mean rejecting religion.**
> Saguenay Mayor Jean Tremblay

"The state must instead remain neutral in this regard."

The ruling ended an eight-year legal battle that pitted atheist Alain Simoneau and a secular-rights organization against Tremblay. The Supreme Court did not rule on the legality of religious symbols — and that prompted Tremblay to urge governments other than at the municipal level to get involved in defending the presence of such objects in city halls and legislatures. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRIAL

Reasons for slogans is cabinet secrecy

Strong. Proud. Free. And a state secret.

The genesis of the Harper government's "Strong Proud Free" slogan that is currently bombarding Canadian television viewers is considered a cabinet confidence and will be sealed from public scrutiny for 20 years.

A request by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act seeking any background rationale for the tagline, which is being used to punctuate all the latest taxpayer-funded advertising, has come up empty.

That's because a 149-page Treasury Board submission on advertising has been deemed advice to cabinet, placing it behind a lead sheet of secrecy that even the federal information commissioner can't penetrate. No title for the submission, nor a date, author or even the department that originally prepared it can be revealed.

A spokesman for the Privy Council Office, the bureaucracy that supports the Prime Minister's Office, would only say that the slogan is "drawn from the thematics" of the government's 2013 throne speech.

Opposition critics point out the language is also drawn from the 2011 Conservative party platform and mirrors the themes promoted as Conservative values on the party website and in fundraising pitches.

The theme of this election year's Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa? Strong. Proud. Free.

"Using cabinet confidentiality on something that should be so benign is ridiculous," said Mathieu Ravignat, the NDP Treasury Board critic.

"They've been caught using a partisan tagline and they're hiding behind cabinet confidentiality to avoid the political fallout." THE CANADIAN PRESS

VANCOUVER

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER VISITS SIKH TEMPLE

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, left, and Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrive at the Gurdwara Khalsa Diwan, a Sikh temple, in Vancouver on Thursday. Dozens of placard-waving protesters gathered about a block away as Modi arrived. Their shouts could be heard at the Sikh temple before Modi showed up, smiling and waving. Police cordoned off the building where Modi and Harper were to spend about 30 minutes before travelling to a Hindu temple in Surrey, B.C. Several hundred people were inside to see Modi, who is the first Indian prime minister to visit the oldest Sikh temple in North America.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report prompts apology from CBC

JIAN GHOMESHI

Investigation launched after allegations surfaced

A scathing report detailing the failure of CBC managers to stop star radio host Jian Ghomeshi's alleged inappropriate workplace behaviour elicited a profuse apology Thursday from its president.

A humbled Hubert Lacroix offered his "sincere and unqualified apology to our employees and to Canadians" as findings of a 52-page report were revealed, including allegations that the disgraced Ghomeshi belittled colleagues, played cruel pranks and, in a "small number of cases," sexually harassed them.

The report, which redacted portions that could identify employees, also concluded that Ghomeshi's managers knew about inappropriate behaviour but failed to act or hold the former Q host accountable.

"The findings of this report are troubling, they're disappointing and they point to lapses in our system and concerns about our culture," Lacroix told a conference call.

Outside investigator Janice Rubin interviewed 99 people over five months to prepare the report, which proposed nine recommendations that include a confidential hotline for employees and a "respect-at-work and human-rights" ombudsperson.

The investigation was launched after CBC fired Ghomeshi in October, saying there was "graphic evidence" he had caused physical injury to a woman.

Claims eventually emerged from more than a dozen women who alleged sexual or physical assault. Ghomeshi has admitted in a Facebook posting that he engaged in "rough sex" but insisted it was always consensual.

Ghomeshi faces seven counts of sexual assault and one of overcoming resistance by choking, but his lawyer has said he will plead not guilty to all charges. One of the complainants is a former CBC employee.

Rubin's report listed several alleged transgressions that initially went unpunished, most of them non-sexual in nature such as chronic lateness, being "moody and temperamental" and "critical and mean" to coworkers.

According to the report, a majority of witnesses who worked with Ghomeshi over the course of his CBC career described "a pattern of behaviour and conduct" that was "deeply disrespectful to employees," however some witnesses reported have "no difficulty" working with him. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DETAILS

Some of the investigator's recommendations:

- Review and clarify policies which set out behavioural standards at the CBC, along with the Canadian Media Guild union
- Provide training to both staff and managers on revised policies
- Create a confidential hotline for employees to report concerns and complaints
- Create a new "respect-at-work and human-rights" ombudsperson position that reports to the chief executive of the CBC

VANCOUVER

Fuel spill underscores gap in research after federal cuts: Expert

A toxic fuel spill in Vancouver's harbour underscores a major gap in research and readiness because of federal cuts to science programs, says an expert with the city's aquarium.

Peter Ross said there is no cohesive long-term monitoring of British Columbia's coastal ecosystems. The lack of baseline data makes it difficult for scientists to assess the spill's impact, he said.

"We think there is a gap in terms of our capacity to understand the ocean, document our impact on the ocean, and consequently that renders very, very difficult our ability to protect the ocean," he said in a phone interview.

"These sorts of spills simply underscore our lack of understanding and preparedness for anything like this."

TEST RESULTS

The city of Vancouver said it expects to share results of its testing with health authorities by the end of the week.

The bulk grain carrier MV Marathassa dumped at least 2,700 litres of bunker fuel into English Bay last Wednesday and the oil quickly spread to beaches in the bay, along Stanley Park and on West Vancouver's shores.

Ross said the Vancouver Aquarium learned of the spill through media reports last Thursday and immediately sent scientists to take oil, water and sediment samples.

Aquarium divers have collected sediment from the sea floor.

Both the Department of Fisheries and the City of Vancouver have also taken water and sediment samples.

"There is no official clarity around who is to monitor the effects of a spill," said Ross.

The federal government cut millions in funding to Fisheries in 2012. More than 50 scientists lost their jobs, including Ross, whose marine toxicology program was shut down.

While the province shares some responsibility for monitoring its coast, it is up to Fisheries to monitor marine life health, said Ross.

Fisheries did not immediately respond to a request for comment, but issued a public statement Thursday that said it is developing a long-term plan to monitor spill effects. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scottish National Party Leader Nicola Sturgeon, left, and UKIP party leader Nigel Farage talk during a televised British election debate at Central Hall Westminster, London, Thursday. Britain will vote in a general election on May 7. STEFAN ROUSSEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, POOL

Brits head to the polls May 7

U.K.

Parties unveil electoral platforms

It's a common refrain: Politicians are all the same. The party platforms released this week for Britain's May 7 election tell a more diverse story, revealing, amid their hundreds of pages, which party wants to bring an NBA team to Britain and which has pledged to help bees.

British political manifestos lay out in detail each party's plans for government. The contents are important, but so is the manifesto launch, a televised rally-cum-press conference designed to cement the party brand.

Ill-considered policies can return to haunt parties. In 2010, the Liberal Democrats made a promise to abolish university tuition fees. Then the party joined a coalition government that tripled them. It has since lost more than half its support.

And poor preparation can be an embarrassment. U.K. Independence Party leader Nigel Farage has said his party's 2010 manifesto was "drivel. I didn't read it." He promised Wednesday that he has "read, absorbed and understood" every word this time around.

Economically, Britain has had a rocky time since the 2008 financial crisis, and all parties are trying to convince voters that they will keep the economic recovery on track.

Conservatives and Labour, the two biggest parties, both promise to cut the deficit, crack down on tax evasion and help "hardworking families."

The centre-right Conservatives want to show they support working people and not just the rich. They're promising an extension of former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's iconic "right to buy" policy that let thousands of social-housing tenants buy their own homes in the 1980s.

Left-leaning Labour is striving to appear fiscally responsible, so the first page of its manifesto promises that a Labour government will cut the deficit every year.

Immigration is UKIP's centrepiece, and has driven the once-fringe party up to third place in opinion polls. UKIP's manifesto promises to leave the European Union, "take back control of our borders" and restrict immigration to skilled workers needed by the British economy.

Britain's complex relationship with Europe and the wider world is another underlying election issue.

Under pressure from UKIP, Cameron's Tories have promised a referendum on European Union membership by 2017.

Labour says the Conservatives have left Britain "sidelined in Europe and isolated abroad," and argues it's essential Britain stays in the EU. The Liberal Democrats are also staunchly pro-Europe, but say they will cut bureaucracy and waste.

Other electoral promises are stranger. The Conservatives have vowed to build "greater links with the U.S. National Football League, the National Basketball Association and Major League Baseball, with the ultimate ambition of new franchises being based here."

Meanwhile, the animal-friendly Greens say they would ban foie gras, outlaw monkeys as pets and "help bees" by banning the use of pesticides.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESSW

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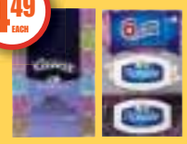

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ENDANGERED SPECIES

Guards protect last male rhino of his kind

The world's only remaining male northern white rhino is now under armed guard all day and night, and an online campaign is looking to raise funds to keep these "rhino rangers" to help protect the subspecies from extinction.

Kenya's Ol Pejeta Conservancy has launched a GoFundMe campaign aiming to crowdfund 75,000 pounds, or $136,000 Canadian dollars, to help employ rangers to protect 42-year-old Sudan and other animals.

Rhinos have become targets for poachers, fuelled by belief in Asia that their horns have medicinal properties.

In addition to the armed security, and using anti-poaching dogs, the conservancy attaches radio transmitters to the animals in order to collect intelligence on poaching in the area.

The 36,400-hectare reserve is home to two other northern white rhinos, of the only five remaining in the world, along with 106 critically endangered black rhinos and 20 southern white rhinos.

Both northern and southern white rhinos are classified as a subspecies due to their genetic differences. The fate of keeping the northern cousins alive rests in Sudan and his ability to conceive with either of the conservancy's female rhinos.

"It is this difference in habitat that has played a major factor in the decline, monitoring, and conservation of the white rhino," the conservancy states on the campaign page.

The campaign has not only raised money for training and keeping the rangers safe, but also managed to spread the word about Sudan, with #LastMaleStanding spreading throughout Twitter.

The conservancy says they are hoping to raise the money in order to substitute a drop in tourism dollars because of "misconceptions about Ebola ... and instabilities in remote parts of Kenya." METRO

Sudan, the final remaining male northern white rhino, is protected 24 hours a day by armed guards. THE OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY VIA TWITTER

Migrants are transferred to holding centres after disembarking from Italian Coast Guard ship Dattilo, Thursday. CARMELO IMBESI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police detain 15, say Muslims threw Christians overboard

MIGRATION CRISIS

Accused of homicide, religious hatred

Italy's migration crisis took on a deadly new twist Thursday as police in Sicily reported that Muslim migrants had thrown 12 Christians overboard during a recent crossing from Libya, and an aid group said another 41 were feared drowned in a separate incident.

Palermo police said they had detained 15 people suspected in the high seas assault, which they learned of while interviewing tearful survivors from Nigeria and Ghana who had arrived in Palermo Wednesday morning after being rescued at sea by the ship Ellensborg.

The 15 were accused of multiple homicide aggravated by religious hatred, police said in a statement.

The survivors said they had boarded a rubber boat April 14 on the Libyan coast with 105 passengers aboard, part of the wave of migrants taking advantage of calm seas and warm weather to make the risky crossing from Libya, where most smuggling operations originate.

During the crossing, the migrants from Nigeria and Ghana — believed to be Christians — were threatened with being abandoned at sea by some 15 other passengers from the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Mali and Guinea Bissau.

Eventually the threat was carried out and 12 were pushed overboard. The statement said the motive was that the victims "professed the Christian faith while the aggressors were Muslim."

The surviving Christians, the statement said, only managed to stay on board by forming a "human chain" to resist the assault.

Earlier Thursday, the International Organization of Migration said four migrants who were picked up in recent days by the Italian Navy reported a shipwreck to aid workers after arriving in the Italian port of Trapani Thursday. Their boat had originally been carrying 45 people; the others are presumed dead.

The IOM said the migrants — two Nigerians, a Ghanaian and one Nigerien (from Niger) — were found floating in the sea by a helicopter and rescued by the Italian Naval ship Foscari. They'd left Tripoli in Libya on Saturday and stayed adrift four days. The location of the rescue was not immediately known.

The new tragedies come just days after aid agencies reported 400 presumed dead in the sinking of another ship near the Libyan coast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

10,000

An unprecedented wave of migrants has headed for the European Union's promised shores over the past week, with 10,000 people making the trip. Hundreds — nobody knows how many — have disappeared into the warming waters of the Mediterranean, including 41 migrants reported dead Thursday after a shipwreck.

MALAYSIA AIRLINES

Search for Flight 370 may double in size

The search area for the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 will be expanded by another 60,000 square kilometres in the Indian Ocean if the jetliner is not found by May, officials said Thursday, affirming their commitment to not give up until it is located.

Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai said that Malaysia, Australia and China, which are leading the hunt for the Boeing 777 that went missing on March 8 last year, are "committed to the search."

He told reporters that so far, 61 per cent of the 60,000 kilometre search area has been scoured off Australia's west coast. The remaining 39 per cent would have been searched by the end of May, he said.

"If the aircraft is not found within the 60,000 square kilometres, we have collectively decided to extend the search to another 60,000 square kilometres within the highest probability area," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Thousands flee as ISIL advances on Ramadi, Iraq

More than 2,000 families have fled the Iraqi city of Ramadi with little more than the clothes on their backs, officials said Thursday, as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) closed in on the capital of western Anbar province, clashing with Iraqi troops and turning it into a ghost town.

The extremist group captured three villages on Ramadi's eastern outskirts on Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MASS GRAVE

Congo prepared to exhume 421 bodies

Congo's government is ready to exhume the bodies of more than 400 people buried in a mass grave in March following allegations of killings, a minister said Thursday.

Police, judiciary and the administration have opened inquests into the burial of 421 bodies in rural Maluku, and magistrates will determine if an exhumation is needed, said Justice and Human Rights Minister Alexis Thambwe Mwamba.

Congolese authorities have said the mass grave in Maluku holds fetuses, stillborn babies and homeless people that were buried to make room in the Kinshasa morgue. The opposition and rights groups have called for independent investigations, saying that those buried in the mass grave include demonstrators killed during protests in January against a revision of an electoral law.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Craft flew under the radar

UNITED STATES

Gyrocopter pilot arrested; exposes gap in U.S. security

The gyrocopter that landed on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol "apparently literally flew in under the radar," Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said Thursday, as concerned lawmakers questioned how it was allowed to happen and why.

Johnson said it's too soon to say whether Wednesday's incident should prompt changes in security procedures. "I want to know all the facts before I reach an assessment of what can and should be done about gyrocopters in the future," he said.

But lawmakers said the incident exposed a gap in security, especially amid revelations that the pilot, Florida postal worker Doug Hughes, was interviewed by the Secret Service almost two years ago. The agency apparently determined he did not pose a threat, said Rep. Elijah Cummings, the senior Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Cummings spoke Thursday with the Secret Service director.

"I think that there's absolutely a gap, and it's a very dangerous gap, with regard to our airspace," Cummings said. "I don't want people to get a message that they can just land anywhere. Suppose there was a bomb or an explosive device on that air vehicle? That could have been a major catastrophe."

Johnson said the Secret Service passed along the information from the interview with Hughes, who was to appear in court Thursday afternoon, to "all of the appropriate law enforcement agencies."

The tiny, open-air aircraft landed without injuries to anyone, but the incident raises questions about how someone could be allowed to fly all the way from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, right up to the Capitol. Hughes has said he was making the flight to publicize his concerns about the corrupting influence of money in politics, and deliver letters to all 535 members of Congress on the topic.

"We are a democracy. We don't have fences around our airspace, so we've got to find the right balance between living in a free and open society and security and the protection of federal buildings," Johnson told reporters on Capitol Hill. "And so we want to stay one step ahead of every incident like this, but then again, you don't want to overreact, either."

Still, lawmakers questioned why, if authorities had been in touch with Hughes, no action was taken to stop him.

"My concerns are the prior notice that he was going to do this and the lack of response," said Rep. Michael McCaul, a Republican. A Senate aide said the Capitol Police knew of the plan shortly before Hughes took off. Hughes has worked for the Postal Service for 11 years. He said he kept his Russian-born wife and 12-year-old daughter in the dark about his plan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHO KNEW?

Officials knew, two say

A Senate aide said the Capitol Police knew of the plan shortly before Hughes took off. The aide spoke on condition of anonymity. Also, a friend of Doug Hughes said the Secret Service was alerted beforehand because of concerns he would get shot down.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police arrested a man who steered his craft onto the lawn of the U.S. Capitol. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Suppose there was a bomb or an explosive device on that air vehicle?**
> Rep. Elijah Cummings

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OKLAHOMA

Accused shot gun to 'scare' victim: Defence

The doctor who performed the autopsy on a college baseball player from Australia who was shot in the back while jogging in Oklahoma said Thursday that even immediate medical attention would not have saved his life.

"Apart from a miracle, no,'' said Dr. Inas Yacoub, a forensic pathologist with the state medical examiner's office. Yacoub testified in the first-degree murder trial of 17-year-old Chancey Allen Luna, who is charged with shooting Christopher Lane, 22, in August 2013, that he recovered a .22-calibre bullet from Lane's body.

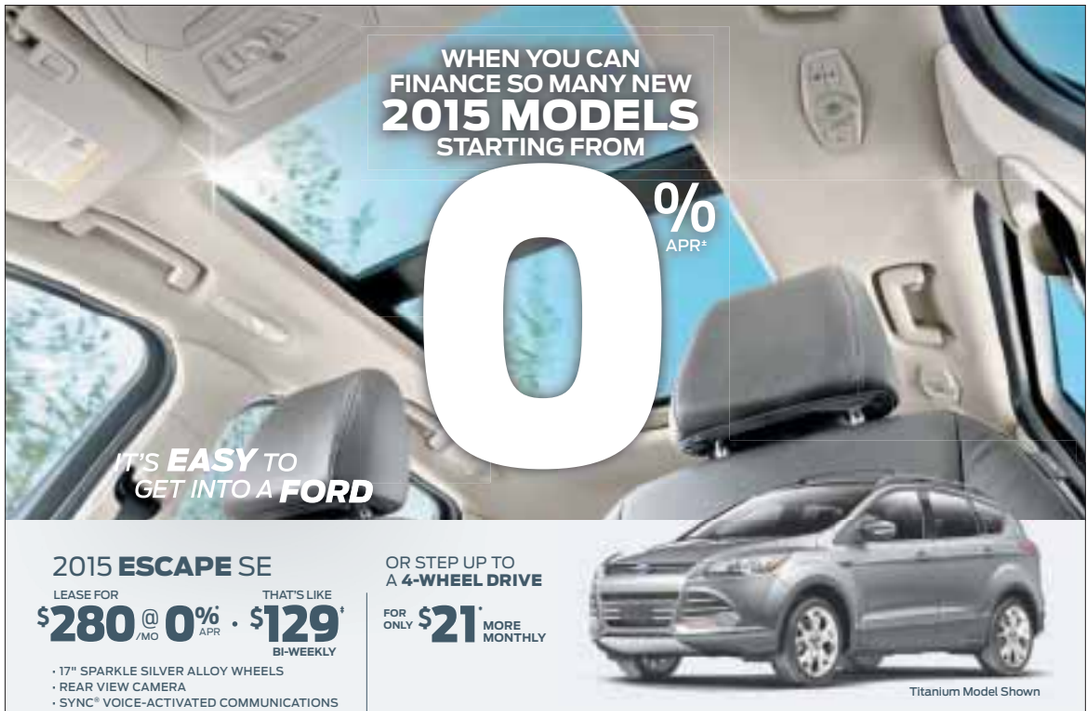
"Despite being small, it damaged vital structures and caused significant bleeding,'' Yacoub told jurors, striking two major blood vessels, puncturing both lungs and breaking two ribs.

The victim's mother, Donna Lane, wiped tears from her face when prosecutors showed jurors a photo of the bloody T-shirt her son was wearing.

Defence attorneys acknowledge that Luna fired the fatal shot but say he was only trying to scare Lane, a native of Melbourne, Australia, who was in Oklahoma on a college baseball scholarship. Luna is not expected to testify and the defence indicated it may call just one witness, Luna's mother, Jennifer Luna. She said outside the courthouse that she doesn't believe her son is guilty, despite his attorneys' comments to the jury.

"Those are court-appointed lawyers. If I had the money to get a real lawyer, it wouldn't go this way,'' Jennifer Luna said.

"If my son did it, it wasn't on purpose. It wasn't meant to be. My son would never intentionally try to hurt somebody.'' Closing arguments are on Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Balloons released during a ceremony to commemorate the first anniversary of the Sewol ferry sinking. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anger still raw over ferry deaths

SOUTH KOREA

Relatives unmoved by leader's vow to salvage vessel

With public anger and grief raw one year after a ferry sinking killed 304 people, South Korea's president promised on Thursday to raise the submerged vessel, even as relatives of the victims snubbed her appearance at a mourning ceremony.

Black-clad relatives and their supporters remembered the dead, most of whom were high school students, on the anniversary of the sinking of the Sewol in one of the country's worst maritime disasters.

In the evening, tens of thousands of mourners including family members and students joined a rally in downtown Seoul, where relatives have protested for months. The group tried to march to a memorial hall but was blocked by large numbers of police, who used tear gas.

Earlier in the day, relatives blocked the prime minister from attending a mourning event. They cancelled another ceremony because of what they called government indifference to their plight.

There's frustration among South Koreans who see their government as having failed to make meaningful improvements to safety standards and hold high-level officials accountable for a disaster blamed in part on incompetence and corruption.

Hours before a trip abroad, President Park Geun-hye visited a small port near the site of the sinking to offer condolences to bereaved relatives. Most, however, refused to meet her to protest the government's response.

Park gave a speech anyway, announcing plans to salvage the ferry — a demand of the relatives. She said only that the operation would happen "as soon as possible.''

Flags at public buildings were lowered to half-staff and a minute of silence was observed in Ansan, the city that lost nearly an entire class of students on a doomed field trip to a southern resort island. A private ceremony was planned at Danwon High School in the evening.

Relatives cancelled a memorial service in Ansan that thousands were planning to attend. They expressed anger over Park not visiting the site and not giving a firm commitment for a deeper investigation into what they say is government responsibility for the sinking and botched rescue. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FINANCE SURGING STOCK Kristina Salen, centre left, Etsy's chief financial officer, stands with Chad Dickerson, centre right, chairman and chief executive officer, to celebrate the company's IPO with employees and guests at the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York on Thursday. Shares of arts-and-crafts retailer Etsy surged in opening trading on the Nasdaq. After pricing at $16 late Wednesday, the stock opened at nearly double that and hit a high of $35.73 in morning trading. The company is valued at $3.33 billion, based on afternoon trading just shy of $30. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cirque du soleil sale imminent

CULTURE

Deal would give 60% majority share to TPG Capital

Emotions are running high at Cirque du soleil as the company is preparing to announce the sale of the famed Quebec circus troupe on Monday even though co-founder Guy Laliberte has yet to fully sign off on the transaction.

Employees are sad because an era in one of Quebec's creative success stories seems to be on the verge of change, said a former senior official who remains close to old colleagues.

"I'm very emotional because it's the end of something extraordinary," said the source, who didn't want to be identified.

Laliberte told workers on Wednesday he had not yet concluded a sale agreement, which reports say would be for something under $2 billion.

"To be perfectly honest, there are a lot of discussions taking place at the moment," Laliberte wrote in a short email. "However, and as I usually do, be sure that you will be the first informed."

Sources close to the deal say U.S. private equity firm TPG Capital is close to completing a deal that involves Quebec pension fund manager the Caisse de depot and a large Chinese investment fund.

Laliberte would reportedly continue to hold 10 per cent of the company after the sale and the Caisse another 10 per cent, with TPG holding 60 per cent and China's Fosun Capital the remaining 20 per cent.

The new owners plan to maintain the Cirque's headquarters in Montreal and would expand its global operations by opening a support office in Shanghai, where Fosun is based.

"Any transaction would involve both the management and creative soul of the company remaining in Montreal," said a source close to the deal. "TPG very much appreciates the unique cultural heritage of the Cirque."

> **It's the end of something extraordinary.**
> Former Cirque employee

TPG is the world's largest casino owner with a stake in Caesar's Entertainment, while Fosun owns Club Med resorts.

While the Quebec government has said it wants the Cirque's head office to remain in the province in the event of a sale, Premier Philippe Couillard said Thursday in the legislature that it won't intervene in "a private transaction."

The purchase price is reportedly less than what Laliberte was seeking. But after a 30-year run, it's natural for a billionaire entrepreneur to sell his company as the product matures, competition increases and the public reacts more slowly to the offering, said Nadeau, who now heads Quebec's Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

INDIA

Hardline groups want beef ban

Every morning just before dawn, hundreds of trucks loaded with buffaloes trundle into New Delhi's sprawling slaughterhouse where young men rush to unload the bellowing cargo. Skidding on heaps of fresh dung, they herd them out of the trucks for the daily auction and slaughter.

But the business is big. Despite Hindu beliefs that cows are sacred — and the fact that their slaughter is banned in most of the country — India is the world's fifth-largest consumer and second-largest exporter of beef. The meat, which in India comes from bulls and buffaloes, is widely eaten in some communities, particularly by low-caste Hindus and millions of others.

With the victory of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party last year, hardline Hindu groups are pushing to expand the slaughter ban to include all types of cattle, male or female.

The state's decision did not come as a surprise. During his election campaign, Modi promised a countrywide ban on cow slaughter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PENALTIES

Beef slaughter carries fine, jail term

The ban carries a stiff punishment: Bail is not allowed and anyone convicted of selling or possessing beef faces a five-year jail term and a $200 fine.

market minute

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Bell faces $750M lawsuit for tracking cellphone usage

A national class action lawsuit has been filed against Bell Canada over alleged breaches of privacy arising from its recently discontinued target ads program.

The suit against subsidiaries of Bell alleges that the defendants used the program to track, collect and sell the sensitive account and Internet browsing information of their customers to advertisers.

It seeks $750-million in damages for breach of privacy, breach of contract and breach of the Telecommunications Act.

A spokesman for Bell was not immediately available for comment on the allegations contained in the lawsuit.

"The Relevant Ads Program was a misguided attempt by a Canadian telecommunications company to generate advertising revenue," said Ted Charney of Charney Lawyers. "If allowed to proceed, it constitutes a threat to the core privacy rights of all Canadians." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
WEEKEND, April 17-19, 2015

Happy face/Sad face

From an update on **marijuana use** to the lowdown on **discrimination** in the lab, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week.

World's most unhorrible boss

Seattle's Dan Price took a 90 per cent, $930,000 pay cut at his payment-processing company so he could raise salaries for his 120 staff. From an annual average of $48,000, everyone will be making at least $70,000 by 2018. There's greater inequality today than there's been since the Great Recession, Price observed. "This is a capitalist solution to a social problem," he said. "I think it pays for itself, I really do."

All the dope on declining dope use

Statistics Canada reports marijuana use may be down among teens and young adults. The percentage of 15- to 24-year-olds who've partaken dropped from 2002 to 2012. Gender-wise, 49 per cent of males have tried it compared to 36 per cent of females. Nor is it necessarily a gateway drug: most cocaine and heroin users have used marijuana. But most marijuana users have never used other illicit drugs.

A water hazard with real teeth

There were no crocodile tears for golfer John Lahiff, 75, after he was bitten in the right calf at a resort in northern Australia. "It's partly my fault for disturbing it," he said stoically. "It was just sunbaking." He was navigating a water trap when the 1.2-metre croc showed up. Attacks from younger crocs are rare, said local authorities. But he's lucky it was little. Adult crocs can measure six metres long, with teeth to match.

Scientists want fame for females, too

UBC scientists Judy Illes and Catherine Anderson quit the selection committee of the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame after only men were nominated for the second year in a row. The public does the nominating, but Illes said more could be done to change perceptions that science is a male pursuit. "To have zero women two years in a row signifies a failure on our part to really reach out as needed."

Don't click if you can't commit to an e-vite

THE KOHLER REPORT
Rebecca Kohler

Last week I went to a sad birthday party to which I was the seventh and last guest to arrive. There's nothing wrong with a small party, unless it wasn't planned as a small party.

What made this one particularly heartbreaking was that in the middle of the room sat a giant charcuterie plate — picture a surfboard covered in salami and paté. When the butcher (charcuterie artist?) had asked how many guests were expected, the birthday girl had estimated 25 based on her Facebook invite: 28 "attending," nine "maybes." With me as the final arrival, let's just say she was eating salty meats for several days afterward.

With this not being the first under-attended party I've been at over the past year, I got to wondering: has Facebook made us flakier than skin in winter?

I've suffered similar humiliations. When I threw a party last New Year's Eve, my Facebook invitation boasted 30 confirmed attendees. Instead, I rang in 2014 among an awkward mix of 11 people I kind of knew. The biggest sting wasn't just people not showing up; it was who hadn't shown up — close friends who'd made comments on the invite like, "See you tonight!" and "Can't wait!"

Should auld acquaintance be forgot? Uh, if you're not even going to show up to my party, then yeah, forget you. The only thing worse than waking up on Jan. 1 hung over after a big party is waking up hung over after a tiny party. "Happy New Year! You're a loser!"

People have been bailing on plans since the beginning of time — I'm sure there was once a lonely caveman standing in an empty cave with an abundance of fire and paleo snacks — but because of the removed nature of "e-vites," our inability to commit is out of control. Clicking on a virtual button is way less of an emotional investment than speaking or making eye contact.

And I get it: Facebook and other social-networking sites have expanded my IRL social life greatly. I'm a comedian, so I have 2,033 FB friends. I probably know like 42 of them (and like like 15 of them) but I get invited to ALL of their events.

It's only human: you see an invite and you want to look like you care, you want to look social, so you press "Going" or "Join." But often we click whether we intend to go or not, forgetting that at the other end of the Internet is a friend or acquaintance who sees our acceptance with glee. That person then starts excitedly planning and vacuuming and putting melon balls and prosciutto on toothpicks.

There is a disconnect between your mouse and that person's feelings that we need to address. We need to revisit our callous clicking because the more you try to look like you care online, the more of an uncaring monster you look in real life.

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

"Host culture enabled Ghomeshi to rule with impunity a long time"

I've worked at public broadcasters and I know so-called host culture.

Why doesn't CBC executive Heather Conway?

She and other Mother Corp leaders appeared humbled yesterday in the face of a scathing report on workplace culture at Q — sorry, q. We apologize, we fully accept the report's findings and we'll implement the recommendations swiftly, they chanted.

The report found that a range of abuses by Jian Ghomeshi went unchecked and host culture played a key role. But pressed on how CBC would deal with host culture, Conway downplayed its very existence. "I'm not sure that host culture, or the premise, is an excuse for managers not managing," she said. She also rejected the idea it's a problem with other hosts.

Well, I'd refer Conway back to that report the CBC commissioned, because in the words of one witness, it's "definitely an issue."

Also known as "keeping the talent happy" — a phrase I picked up while working for the CBC and BBC — host culture means that "my voice next to his would mean nothing," as one alleged Ghomeshi victim has told media.

Now that Ghomeshi's gone, though, we shouldn't worry, according to Conway.

That's despite the fact that the report dedicated a whole section to host culture and how it enabled Ghomeshi to rule with impunity, and despite the fact that witnesses said it's been a problem at the broadcaster "for a long time."

Host culture is not some kind of Q anomaly. Egos in media are notorious for a reason. Ghomeshi's an extreme example of a subtle and pervasive hierarchy where the face of a program gets deferential treatment due to their pivotal and public role in a program's success.

And maybe the worst thing about host culture is how closely tied it is to the kind of celebrity the CBC was chasing in Ghomeshi. The celebrity that helped him reach those ugly heights and kept him there too long. We know from other cases, such as the horrific Jimmy Savile child-abuse scandal at the BBC, that placating and protecting celebrity talent is dangerous.

To deny that role in the Ghomeshi affair, or even to reject its presence elsewhere in the CBC, will only do one thing: protect the powerful.

CBC leadership is promising a "culture shift." They're going to clean up the mess of inadequate policies and management failures. They're going to make the hierarchy clear, and the host won't be at the top of it, so they say.

But that means nothing if host culture persists. Oh sorry, I forgot. It doesn't exist.

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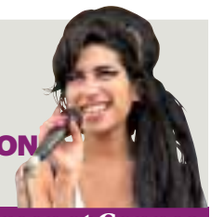

Amy Winehouse doc to screen at Cannes

#IKnowWhatYouDidOnline

NEW RELEASE

Unfriended is social commentary masked as a horror film

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse

The best horror films are never only about the Double Gs — guts and gore.

Sure, part of the appeal of scary movies is that they make the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end, and that frequently requires a spray of blood or a nightmarish vision of terror in the form of Freddy Kruger or Jason Voorhees, but great horror films are always about something other than the thrills and chills.

To be truly effective, scary pictures must tap into a collective anxiety; societal hot buttons that elevate the frights to a new level.

For instance, Frankenstein plays on people's fear of science while Godzilla is an obvious cultural metaphor for nuclear weapons in reaction to the devastation of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and you don't have to be Sigmund Freud to see Dracula as the metaphorical embodiment of everything from drug addiction and old age to alternative lifestyles and capitalism.

Perhaps the most socially self-aware horror film of all is Night of the Living Dead. It's got zombies galore but director George A. Romero had the braaaiiins to include a subtext that echoed the contemporary state of America's race relations, the horrors of Vietnam and cynicism with government. It's the best of both worlds: a thought-provoking movie that gushes with gore.

Film historian Linda Badley suggests Night of the Living Dead horrifies because the zombies weren't bizarre creatures from outer space or from Dr. Frankenstein's laboratory, but because, "They're us."

This weekend a new film, Unfriended, turns the camera, or in this case the Skype screen, on us in an eerie story about bullying.

On the surface, Unfriended may look like a cheapo teen horror flick with a cast of unknowns — which it is, but so was Night of the Living Dead — but by basing the plot in the world of social media and the bad behaviour that comes along with anonymous avatars, it becomes a ripped-from-the-headlines comment on a very touchy societal subject.

The movie begins a year after Laura, a popular high school student, has been cyber shamed into killing herself.

A teenage girl is on a group Skype session when she begins to receive cryptic and threatening messages from Laura's old account. As the movie unfolds, secrets are revealed and the danger is amped up.

The mysterious killer is a hoary old horror convention, but here it's told in the contemporary language of millennials.

Unsurprisingly, the movie has already sparked the interest of the Y Generation — the trailer garnered almost 300,000 Twitter comments on its first day. Millenials relate to the setting (by and large, it takes place on a computer screen) and are all too familiar with the everyday brutality of Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Instagram and Spotify.

They understand what a minefield the web can be and the filmmakers realized the narrative possibilities of creating cinema's first deadly Internet troll. Freddy Kruger is your father's baddie; the new horror comes in bits and bytes.

Similar to Psycho's Norman Bates or the undead of 28 Days Later, the kids of Unfriended tell a very specific story — the sad tale of a teen suicide — that becomes a universal horror tale by making the characters and setting ordinary and relatable.

Like the best of classic fright films, it breathes new life into a form we've seen before by recontextualizing it for a new generation.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Unfriended ★★★★
Monkey Kingdom ★★★★
Desert Dancer ★★

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★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

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Daredevil's Deborah Ann Woll 'a very proud dork'

DEBORAH ANN WOLL

Marvel character starts off sweet but turns into a drug addict

Richard Crouse
Metro | Life

Deborah Ann Woll stars as Karen Page in Daredevil. GETTY IMAGES

A quick Internet search turns up many adjectives used to describe Daredevil star Deborah Ann Woll; gorgeous, talented and cute to name just a few.

The redheaded actress uses other terms to describe herself.

"There's nerd, geek, all those words," she says. "I am settling closer and closer to dork. I am a very proud dork."

The former True Blood star — she played fierce teenage vampire Jessica Hamby for seven seasons on the hit show — embraces her inner dork — "I'm Dungeons and Dragons player, a Mystery Science Theatre buff. I like board games."

She says the role playing games have benefits beyond entertainment value.

"Sometimes I feel socially awkward. I feel like sometimes I have trouble connecting to people who are more extroverted. Something like Dungeons and Dragons or a board game is a way for me to be social but it takes some of the responsibility off of me myself. If I don't feel impressive as myself, I can feel impressive as Mistress Pyrona, the Genosi Sword Maiden. Like my acting, it gives me a little bit of support.

"Playing Dungeons and Dragons isn't at all like acting but it is that idea that you can be braver when you're someone else."

> **"Dungeons and Dragons isn't like acting, but it is that idea that you can be braver when you're someone else."**
> Actress Deborah Ann Woll, on role-playing games

On the Netflix series Daredevil, she plays Karen Page, secretary and soon-to-be love interest of Matt Murdock, a blind lawyer who moonlights as crime fighter Daredevil.

The character has been around since the first Daredevil comic in 1964 but has changed substantially over the years. Page began as innocent and sweet, but slowly morphed into a "heroin-addicted porn star," a character that gives Woll lots to work with.

"I like characters that change. For my Karen I said, 'Alright, she's going to have moments when she's innocent, sweet and fun to be around and she'll have moments where she's dark and a little addicted to that adrenaline rush and danger. I want both of those things to live in her at the same time.' We started her with a bit of a past, which hopefully, if we get to do any more of Daredevil we'll find out about."

BACKGROUND

On what fans want

Woll knows the fans care about the characters, and so far the reaction has been good. "They don't care about it because they think you're hot and they want to see you take your top off," says Woll, "they care about it because they really want it to be the Karen they love and respect."

NETFLIX

Fourth season of OITNB ordered

Netflix has confirmed its fourth order of Orange Is the New Black, though the company is yet to reveal how many episodes season 4 will consist of.

Netflix customers won't be able to start watching the third season of the hit show until June 12 when all episodes go on demand. Nevertheless fans can rest assured that once they've binged through all 14 episodes of this year's series, they'll only have 12 months to wait before being able to do it all over again.

OITNB star Taylor Schilling
LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

On Wednesday Netflix released a new teaser clip of what to expect in season three. AFP

TV IN BRIEF

NatGeo finds its funny bone

The National Geographic Channel, not usually a place you'd look for laughs, is making its first comedy.
The network said this week it is making a mini-series, History of the World ... For Now, that takes on the broadest of possible topics with the help of cartoons, puppets and the like. It is expected to air next winter.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ADAPTATIONS

Is Jolie set to direct Captain Marvel?

Collider claims that Angelina Jolie, who most recently directed biopic Unbroken, is being considered for the latest Marvel Studios project.

Captain Marvel, a.k.a. Carol Danvers, is one of the highest-profile female superheroes in the Marvel comic-book canon and so the studio has already signed up two of Hollywood's top female screenwriters — Nicole Perlman (who co-wrote "Guardians of the Galaxy") and Meg LeFauve — to ensure a faithful transition from page to screen.

Signing up Jolie to the project would ensure that excitement and interest in Captain Marvel goes up a notch as well as bringing the character's strong feminist outlook to the screen.

Although other publications have questioned the validity of the story — Jolie has also been linked with the vacant Wonder Woman director's chair — Collider is standing by its studio sources. AFP

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Weird world of reality TV

Naked and stripped of all possessions in an empty flat, what will you choose to have back first: clothes or food?

That's the idea behind Stripped, a new reality TV show from Denmark — one of many weird and wonderful concepts unveiled in the French Riviera resort of Cannes at a gathering of top TV bosses.

Viewers can look forward this year to love-sick priests, super-talented child musicians, manhunts, puppet competitions and ever more dangerous challenges, said TV expert Virginia Mouseler of The Wit, a television consultancy.

The market for reality TV ideas — "formats" in the professional jargon — is worth a staggering $2.1 billion.

A key trend in this year's crop: classical music.

The British series The Choir — in which contestants with little singing experience come together for professional training before a live performance — enjoyed huge success and is spawning spinoffs.

In the Netherlands, The Orchestra of the Nation picks up the same idea, following 65 amateur musicians who come together to play in Amsterdam's biggest concert hall.

Artistic talent is also brought to the fore in "prodigies," a hit on French TV last year, where children compete in the classical arts of music, singing and dance.

As in other areas of life, sex sells — even in unexpected quarters. Pray for Love from Sweden follows the amorous adventures of priests looking for earthly love.

And Father Pride follows the fortunes of gay sons and their disapproving fathers. It builds up to the gay pride march in Buenos Aires, where the key question is whether the father will join his son or not.

And the only prize on The Raft, from the U.S., is just the satisfaction of surviving as contestants are put in a raft without food or water in shark-infested waters.
AFP

This ain't no Survivor! The Raft plops people into shark-infested waters without food or water.
CONTRIBUTED

Sequels that really sucked

Chris Alexander
Metro | Life

Back in 2009, this critic drew the short straw and was assigned by my cruel editor to cover the movie Paul Blart: Mall Cop. The film featured King of Queens star Kevin James as an overweight, simple-minded, Segway-riding mall security guard with delusions of grandeur who ends up foiling a bank robbery and getting the girl. The film is as flat as can be: a laugh-free, dim-bulb wallow in "fat guy" humour and tacky action set pieces.

But Blart went on to become a surprise box-office hit. And now, five years later, James is back in his button-straining white work shirt, wheeling through the running time of Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2. And lo and behold, here we are again, dear Metro readers, me drawing the short straw and you reading my words.

But this time, instead of riffing on the film itself, we've opted to turn our attention to a slew of other studio sequels that nobody asked for. Some are followups to iconic films that should have remained one-shots; some are companions to pictures that weren't very good to begin with. But one thing's for sure: all of them stink!

Staying Alive

Travolta may have sat Grease 2 out, but he showed up for director Sylvester Stallone's wildly awful followup to Saturday Night Fever. In it, Travolta's macho doofus Tony is still strutting around NYC and still angst ridden, but this time he's gunning for his big Broadway break. Said break is an operatic dance number called Satan's Alley that is perhaps the most bloated and ridiculous spectacle you'll ever see. Stallone's brother Frank wrote the music. And it's not good.

An American Werewolf in Paris

John Landis' 1981 classic An American Werewolf in London is a fascinating horror/comedy hybrid full of stark terror, imagination, eroticism and heart as well as revolutionary Rick Baker designed makeup gags. This limp, belated and virtually unrelated sequel has none of these qualities, armed as it is with a chemistry-free cast, shoddy digital effects and no atmosphere whatsoever. Blech!

Grease 2

The original Grease was and remains an immaculate confection, with endlessly singable tunes, John Travolta in peak form and groovy dance numbers. The woefully inept, Travolta-free, Grease 2 has a young Michelle Pfeiffer doing her best to make songs about how awesome bowling is, work. She can't...

The Pink Panther 2

Steve Martin once more insults the memory of Peter Sellers' patented Inspector Clouseau from the classic Pink Panther films. As bad as Martin is here, the criminal waste of a great supporting cast is far worse. The scene in which Martin and French legend Jean Reno dance around the kitchen singing "jojoba" will have you pining for the comedic heights of Paul Blart!

The new Star Wars trailer features Han Solo (Harrison Ford) and Chewbacca. AFP

STAR WARS

New trailer brings fans to tears

Hype surrounding the eagerly-anticipated Star Wars reboot made the jump to light speed on Thursday as the movie's makers unveiled a new trailer that delighted fans with a glimpse of iconic characters Han Solo and Chewbacca.

The action-packed second trailer for Star Wars: The Force Awakens showed spacecraft dogfights and a chase involving the Millennium Falcon before concluding with the unmistakable voice of Harrison Ford as Solo.

"Chewie, we're home," Solo says to his Wookiee friend, who offers a signature roar in reply before the trailer closes with a shot of the iconic yellow-on-black Star Wars logo.

The trailer was premiered at the Star Wars Celebration convention in Anaheim outside Los Angeles, sending fans who had flocked to the event — many wielding light sabers and wearing full Star Wars regalia — into raptures.

The hashtag #Chewiewerehome was rapidly adopted by fans on Twitter while #StarWars was soon a top trending subject on the social media site as anticipation for the movie, due out on Dec. 18, went into overdrive.

Many fans spoke about tears of joy after the trailer's soaring finale featuring Han Solo and Chewbacca, central characters of the beloved first trilogy of Star Wars films made by George Lucas between 1977 and 1983.

"I'm 41 years old and I cried at the end!" tweeted one fan, sentiments echoed by many after the trailer's release.

AFP

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VIDEO GAMES

Band-based titles back in the games

With Guitar Hero and Rock Band preparing new editions for later in 2015, band-based video games have gone from rock star fantasy to ignominy before this year's comeback.

The beginnings
Inspired by a Japanese arcade franchise GuitarFreaks, Massachusetts studio Harmonix produced a console equivalent in 2005's Guitar Hero, powered by special guitar-shaped controllers — an immediate, industry-changing success.

Harmonix's partner RedOctane was acquired by Activision, who then published 2006 sequel Guitar Hero II. By that time, Harmonix had started working on an expanded vision of its original concept.

In the band
2007's Rock Band took lead, rhythm and bass guitar elements, integrating aspects of GuitarFreaks sibling DrumMania and Harmonix's earlier Karaoke Revolution. Players could now drum a plastic kit or sing. Likewise, 2008's Guitar Hero World Tour supported a similar range of instrument-shaped controllers and multi-track songs.

Five fully fledged titles were released over the course of 2009: Activision diversified by offering Guitar Hero 5, pop variant Band Hero, and the turntablist's DJ Hero, while Harmonix had licensed spin-offs Lego Rock Band and The Beatles: Rock Band. Half a dozen more supplementary song packs were also made available.

Rock bottom
But as it turned out, 2007 entry Guitar Hero III had marked the genre's peak. By the end of 2010, several Guitar Hero teams had closed and Harmonix had parted with then-owner Viacom, focusing instead on Dance Central and Disney's Fantasia: Music Evolved for Microsoft.

Further innovation came from an unexpected source. Ubisoft stepped in with 2011's full-on guitar tutor Rocksmith. It proved genuinely capable of teaching musical skills.

Comeback tour
A rejuvenated Harmonix is returning to a vision of social, shared, party-vibe experiences for late 2015's Rock Band 4.

Meanwhile, Activision's comeback Guitar Hero Live takes a different approach to authenticity. Its guitar controller has six wood-toned buttons that help approximate real chord shapes. Visually, it leverages rock concert footage to create an immediate, on-stage view. More than technical mastery, this is now about selling an adrenalin experience. AFP

Video games Guitar Hero Live (pictured) and Rock Band 4 promise something new in 2015. CONTRIBUTED

In Ex Machina, Alicia Vikander, right, plays a robot with a human face. CONTRIBUTED

Ex Machina puts face on being non-human

SCI-FI

Swedish actress on challenges of robot role

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

Alicia Vikander plays a robot with A.I. capabilities in Ex Machina. She talked to Metro while promoting the new film.

Ex Machina is an unusual way to do a sci-fi film: It's very stripped down, its effects organic to the narrative. At times, with its single digit characters, it plays like a play.
It's a chamber piece. To be able to have such long scenes is very rare. Very often you start a scene, you start to get into it, and then it's over. You find a certain path you hadn't taken in another take. In this film you really had the chance to execute whatever new influences or directions you found.

The question in the film is whether Ava, your robotic character, genuinely thinks and feels independent of her programming. How did you approach that?
With any part, even when you're trying to create a new character, you can at least relate to the fact that they're human. With this you couldn't even do that.

I figured that because they were questioning whether she was real or not that her maker must have come very far (in programming her). I wanted her to come very close to that idea. Alex (Garland, the writer-director) was very open about it. I basically had a blank sheet. It was one of those roles you really want because you're quite terrified and scared of taking it on, but you do get to try whatever you want.

It's a film that gets at the heart of what defines consciousness: She's designed, but in a sense we all are.
I could ask myself 10,000 questions. If I said something did I know that I said it? Did I have any intention of saying it?

Was it something I was programmed to say or something I learned? It was scary, because the questions kept coming, one after another. But if you do believe she has a conscience then she's a girl being locked up. And if not, then she's a machine in a space.

WOMAN OR MACHINE

The dynamics of mechanical design

In the movie the scientist, played by Oscar Isaac, creates women, locks them up and then dismantles them if they don't fulfill their duties. Asked if the film can be read as a feminist statement about a man, Viklander says:

"It comes down to the general view of women, and sexualizing them, in our society. But then there's also the fact that she is an object. There's a double-side to it, depending on how you see it.

"Alex wasn't necessarily making a feminist film, but he was bringing up truths in our society."

Now playing

COMEDY

Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2

Director: Andy Fickman
Starring: Kevin James, Nick Bakay

After six years of keeping our malls safe, Paul Blart has earned a well-deserved vacation. He heads to Vegas with his teenage daughter before she heads off to college. But safety never takes a holiday.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 0% Audience: 87%

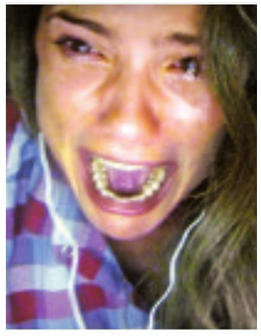
DRAMA

True Story

Director: Rupert Goold
Starring: Jonah Hill, James Franco

When disgraced New York Times reporter Michael Finkel (Jonah Hill) meets accused killer Christian Longo (James Franco) — who has taken on Finkel's identity — his investigation morphs into an unforgettable game of cat-and-mouse. Based on actual events.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 53% Audience: 96%



MYSTERY & HORROR

Unfriended

Director: Levan Gabriadze
Starring: Shelley Hennig, Moses Jacob Storm

Unfriended unfolds over a teenager's computer screen as she and her friends are stalked by an unseen figure who seeks vengeance for a shaming video that led a vicious bully to kill herself a year earlier.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 89% Audience: 91%

ACTION & ADVENTURE

The Dead Lands

Director: Toa Fraser
Starring: George Henare, James Rolleston

Hongi (James Rolleston) — a Maori chieftain's teenage son — must avenge his father's murder in order to bring peace and honour to the souls of his loved ones after his tribe is slaughtered.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 60% Audience: 64%

DOCUMENTARY

Monkey Kingdom

Director: Mark Linfield , Alastair Fothergill

Mark Linfield's nature documentary Monkey Kingdom follows the struggles of a young monkey mother to care for and raise her new baby in the wilds of Southern Asia.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 100% Audience: 83%

DRAMA & COMEDY

Danny Collins

Director: Dan Fogelman
Starring: Al Pacino, Annette Bening

Al Pacino stars as aging 1970s rocker Danny Collins, who can't give up his hard-living ways. But when his manager (Christopher Plummer) uncovers a 40-year-old undelivered letter written to him by John Lennon, he decides to change course.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 72% Audience: 76%

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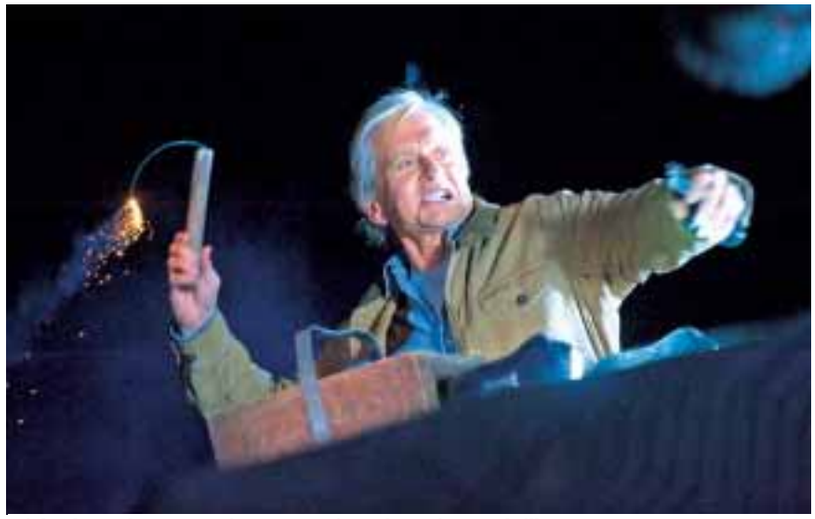
Michael Douglas, unhinged

PREMIERE

Acting legend at full throttle in Beyond the Reach thriller

Chris Alexander
Metro | Life



Michael Douglas co-stars in Jean-Baptiste Léonetti's new thriller. CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sitting in a room with Hollywood legend Michael Douglas is a borderline supernatural experience.

Not only is Douglas bona fide cinema royalty (he is the son of the iconic Kirk Douglas and a veteran award-winning actor and producer in his own right), but it was only a few short years ago that he wasn't expected to live, written off as terminal by tabloids and reliable news portals alike as he battled the late stages of a rare kind of throat cancer.

But survive Douglas did and, against all odds, he even thrived, first winning a well-deserved Emmy for his portrayal of Liberace in Steven Soderbergh's Behind the Candelabra, then signing on as the lead in Marvel's upcoming Ant-Man and now, serving as the co-star and producer of director Jean-Baptiste Léonetti's pulse-pounding new thriller Beyond the Reach.

The film (based on a young-adult book called Deathwatch by Robb White) sees Douglas playing a kind of rugged riff on his Wall Street character, Gordon Gekko, as a millionaire game hunter who takes a young man (Jeremy Irvine) with him into the Mojave Desert to hunt a rare big-horned ram. When tragedy strikes, the desperate Douglas turns his target on his protégé, with terrifying results. It's a fine film with a full-throttle, unhinged and unpredictable Douglas performance.

> **Getting one of these indie movies made is never easy.**
> Michael Douglas

"I wanted to do it," Douglas told us at last year's Toronto International Film Festival.

"I was always going to produce it, right from the beginning, but I thought that as far as getting one of these indie movies made, which is never easy anymore, that my presence in the actual movie would be able to add something."

His scenery-devouring turn — over the top, yet always expertly controlled — pushes Beyond the Reach into the abstract. "This character is a West Coast millionaire who has it all and is always in control. But he flips out when pushed too far. When he's pushed to extremes, the beast comes out. I wanted to dissolve into the worst motherf—er alive."

IN BRIEF

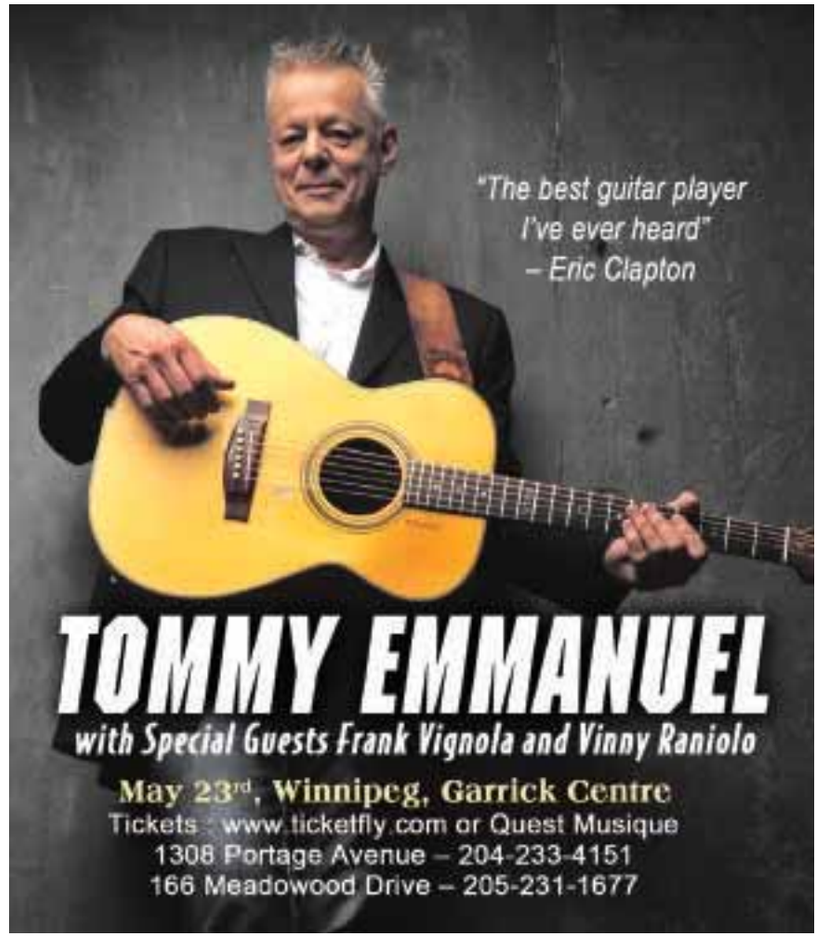
Douglas loves his work, but not the artifice of film

Michael Douglas' broad-strokes performance in Beyond the Reach is offset by stunning location desert photography.

"We shot ... at Shiprock in New Mexico," he says, adding, "If you're going to film in New Mexico, it's essential you get a grip crew locally. These guys were like another species of human being ... (they) go up these mountains, carrying cases and cameras, doing impossible things."

While Douglas still takes joy in working and, post-recovery, has become more prolific, the artifice of cinema leaves him cold. "Too many times I'll watch a film and it ends exactly how I thought it was going to end," he says.

"I love sporting events more because you never know how they will turn out. But after I wrap a film, when it's done, I only watch it once. Only once. And then I'm done. See, I love the process of making movies. Not so much the process of watching them."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Gisele struts off into the sunset

Gisele Bundchen celebrates with fellow models after her final show. ANDRE PENNER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUPERMODEL

NFLer husband totally fine with runway retirement

Ned Ehrbar
In Hollywood

Gisele Bundchen has officially retired from the runway life, walking her last catwalk in Brazil this week, and her husband, Tom Brady, decided to take the opportunity to let the world know how into her he is.

"I have never met someone with more of a will to succeed and determination to overcome any obstacle in the way," Tom gushed on Facebook — maybe it was supposed to be a private message instead? "You never cease to amaze me. Nobody loves life more than you and your beauty runs much deeper than what the eye can see. I can't wait to see what's next. I love you."

Then he threw in a couple of hashtags — "#GOAT " and "#thebestisyettocome" — because no heartfelt message is complete without hashtags. Not these days, at least.

As for why Bundchen is putting an end to her successful runway modelling career? Her body told her to.

> **Nobody loves life more than you and your beauty runs much deeper than what the eye can see. I can't wait to see what's next.**
>
> Tom Brady in Facebook note to wife Gisele Bundchen

"Automatically my body tells me if what I do is worth it, and it asked to stop," she told Brazilian newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo. "I respect my body. It's a privilege to be able to stop."

ENGAGED

Nicki Minaj flashes brand new bling

Nicki Minaj is engaged, and she's got the massive heart-shaped ring to prove it! The rapper took to Twitter to reveal the impressive piece of bling given to her by now-fiancé Meek Mill.

"Both Meek and Nicki have been spending amazing quality time together lately and have gotten extremely close these past few months," a source tells E! News.

"It may seem like it all is happening very quickly but Nicki and Meek are in this 100 (per cent). They truly love each other."

And just how impressive is that ring? "This looks like a 15-carat fancy yellow heart modified brilliant cut diamond mounted in platinum with a double halo of white pavé diamonds," jewelry expert Morgan Shara says. "This would retail for approximately $500,000." Damn, girl.

NED EHRBAR/ METRO

MUSIC VIDEO

Statham can't hide from go-go boy past

Somewhere between his professional diving career and being a big, tough movie star in The Expendables, the Transporter series and the upcoming Spy, British tough guy Jason Statham earned a living as ... a go-go dancer in music videos.

Internet sleuths recently uncovered a video for British '90s techno-hippie band The Shamen's Comin' On that features an oiled-up Statham gyrating in just a leopard-print Speedo and some combat boots along with some extremely rudimentary green screen technology.

And man, is he into it. One thing is for sure, he definitely has some moves.

NED EHRBAR/ METRO

IN BRIEF

Sony hack docs now in searchable online archive

Whistleblower site WikiLeaks has put hundreds of thousands of emails and documents from last year's Sony hack into a searchable online archive.

In December, Sony suffered a crippling cyberattack ahead of the release of the movie The Interview, set in North Korean. An unknown organization leaked the documents and other damaging information online, but not in an easily searchable database. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

170K

WikiLeaks says that its database includes more than 170,000 emails from Sony Pictures Entertainment and a subsidiary, plus more than 30,000 other documents.

Lady Antebellum's tour bus catches fire

A tour bus for superstar country group Lady Antebellum caught fire along an interstate near Dallas, but no one was injured.

Singer Hillary Scott posted on the group's Facebook page that she, her husband, their tour manager and the driver were on the Dallas-bound bus when a tire caught fire Thursday morning.

Scott says everyone safely evacuated, writing "EVERYONE IS SAFE AND SOUND." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Survey: Majority of Vegas tourists married, 45 years old, one-third from California

East Nashville finds its groove

TENNESSEE

Stroll among eclectic mix of eateries, coffee shops, stores

A trip to Nashville wouldn't be complete without a visit to the honky-tonks of lower Broadway and a pilgrimage to the "mother church of country music," the Ryman Auditorium, but once you've hit those, consider a trip across the river to Nashville's hippest neighbourhood.

East Nashville started out as a separate city of country estates, enjoying a post-Civil War boom in the 1870s and 1880s, according to local historian and East Nashville resident Jim Hoobler.

Beginning in 1916, a huge fire, the Great Depression and flight to the suburbs took their toll. Restoration of the area's many Victorian homes and bungalows began in the 1970s, and has helped turn it into one of the city's most desirable neighbourhoods.

Eat, drink and walk Nashville

Today, visitors can easily spend a day or more sampling East Nashville's boutiques, restaurants, brew pubs and clubs. There are too many fun spots to list them all, but a good place to start is the pedestrian-friendly Five Points neighbourhood.

Here Marché Artisan Foods (1000 Main St.) serves up a European-style seasonal menu in a sunny room that is always packed. In addition to sit-down meals, Marché sells baked goods and locally sourced packaged food.

Chef Margot McCormack has another popular restaurant nearby, Margot Café and Bar (1017 Woodland St.), which serves rustic French and Italian cuisine for dinner and Sunday brunch. Reservations can be hard to get, but sometimes there's room at the bar.

A cheaper, humbler meal can be found at I Dream of Weenie (113 S. 11th St.), a hotdog restaurant run out of an old Volkswagen bus. Across the street is the Pied Piper Creamery (114 S. 11th St.), where a signature flavour is Trailer Trash: vanilla ice cream with Oreo, Twix, Butterfinger, Nestle Crunch, Snickers, M&Ms and Reese's Pieces.

New York-style Five Points Pizza (1012 Woodland St.) offers a good selection of local and regional craft beers.

For shopping, a row of tiny boutiques called The Idea Hatchery (1108 Woodland St.) includes everything from an all-local bookstore (East Side Story) to a gourmet oatmeal shop (Haulin' Oats) with lots of vintage and kitsch in between.

Another cluster of boutiques, The Shoppes on Fatherland (1006 Fatherland St.), is within walking distance. Or rent a bicycle for the trip from the nearby Nashville B-cycle station (109 S. 11th St.). Basic rentals are $5 for the first hour, $1.50 each additional half-hour.

Don't miss Jones Fly Co., where workers tie feathers and animal hair around tiny hooks, making mock bug lures that anglers use to fool fish.

For a moment of calm, visit High Garden, selling both traditional teas and herbal infusions with names such as "overworked," "warrior blend" and "airway to heaven." Take a bag to go or share a pot with a friend in the small seating area. There's a selection of books and games for the tables, but laptops are not allowed. Yes, you read that correctly.

"This is not a place to escape, it's a place to be," co-owner Leah Larabell explains.

'Southern artisan chocolate'

Six blocks away is Olive and Sinclair Chocolate Co. (1628 Fatherland St.), where Scott Witherow roasts, stone-grinds and sells what he calls "Southern artisan chocolate." If it's a Saturday, you can tour the factory for $5, including your very own hairnet.

At Barista Parlor (519 B Gallatin Ave.), the coffees have complicated back stories and can be served cold with mixers that make them feel more like cocktails. Food includes inventive house-made "Pop's Tarts," doughnuts and macaroons.

Mas Tacos Por Favor (732 Mcferrin Ave.), an eastside lunchtime favourite, serves great Mexican street food and aguas frescas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEFORE YOU GO
Check out Nashville at visitmusiccity.com/Visitors

Across the Cumberland River from downtown, East Nashville is the hippest part of the city (top), where Leah Larabell mixes tea at High Garden (bottom left), and handmade flies are on display at Jones Fly Company. MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OUTDOORS

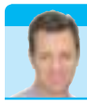
After all that food, burn a few calories by checking out a free bike from Shelby Bottoms Nature Center (1900 Davidson St.) and riding the 950-acre Shelby Bottoms Park's greenway next to the Cumberland River. The adjoining Shelby Park offers another 336 acres complete with nine- and 18-hole golf courses.

Or travel west along the river to Cumberland Park. Just a walking-bridge away from downtown, this kid-friendly spot includes a "sprayground" where jets of water offer relief on hot summer days.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRAVEL TIPS

River cruise woos young and old alike with full itineraries



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie

A recent trip on the inaugural cruise of the Avalon Tranquility II has been an Ivy League crash course in one of the fastest-growing trends in the travel industry, river cruising.

Based on my abbreviated four-day itinerary from the stunning castle-land of Germany's Rhine River gorge through to Basel, Switzerland, I offer this quick tutorial on River Cruising 101.

River ships are not a floating senior citizens' home. Longer itineraries will likely have more retirees on board due to the time commitment, but that doesn't mean it's not a great experience for younger folks. Once you factor in the cost of doing a similar trip on your own, accommodation, meals (including wine with dinner), excursions, entertainment and transportation, the value proposition is excellent.

It has been a welcome surprise that many of the excursions are not geared toward the sedentary set. Pack your walking shoes and be prepared to cover some ground.

Size does matter. Due to infrastructure restrictions, such as the height of bridges and size of locks, the ships plying the rivers of Europe will never be larger than 135 metres long, 11.4 metres wide and a hair more than 6 metres high. That translates to an average of 140 people on any given ship.

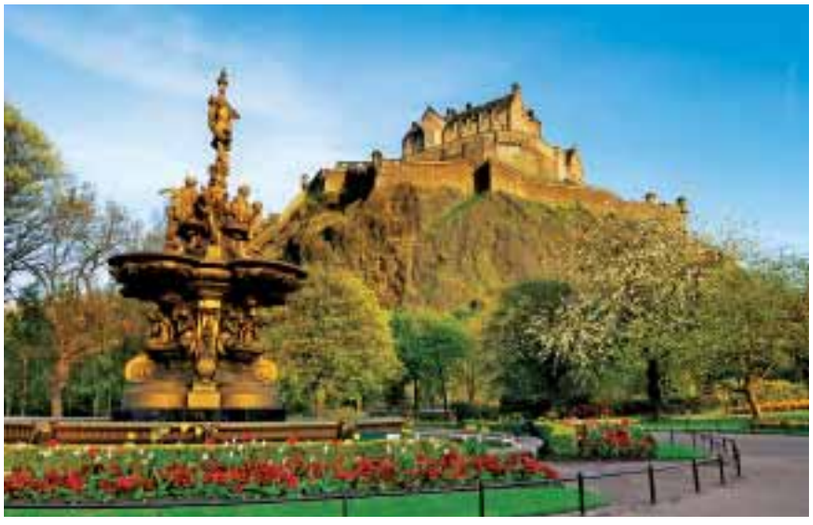
Those used to large ship cruising can say goodbye to long lines to embark, disembark or simply enjoy a meal. These small ships also provide easy access to the destinations, where you can wander into town from the dock at your leisure.

Not all river ships are created equal. When booking, ask questions on the benefits and restrictions of your ship. For example, a big selling feature for some companies is the addition of balconies off of the staterooms. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions on ship width, this means ships with balconies have smaller staterooms. I prefer Avalon's panorama suite model, which offers 200 sq. ft. of spacious stateroom minus the balcony. The configuration of the suite also places the bed facing out toward full-length sliding glass doors, allowing you to lay back and watch the world float by.

It's just civilized. Settling into a stateroom, unpacking once, stopping at fairy tale-like villages and sharing stories over dinner with likeminded travellers are all part of the experience.

4 INTERACTIVE MAPS TO WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF AUTHORS

A recently launched map allows users to discover Edinburgh via its literary history, while an ongoing mapping project getting buzz this week delves into Shakespeare-era London. With these interactive maps, the world's literary capitals are just a click away. AFP

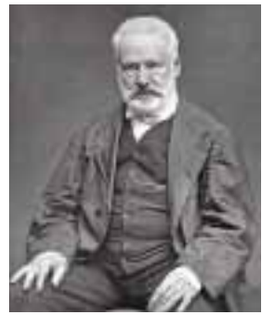


Edinburgh as seen by Scott and Stevenson

Launched late last month, Lit Long: Edinburgh incorporates nearly 550 novels, stories, memoirs and journals focusing on the 19th and early 20th centuries — Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson and Muriel Spark all appear — but also tying in works by the likes of Alexander McCall Smith and Irvine Welsh. The map is the visual, interactive output of the Palimpsest project, created to mine texts such as these. **litlong.org**

Shakespeare's London

Prof. Janelle Jenstad of the University of Victoria is behind the Map of Early Modern London (MoEML), which uses a 1560s woodcut map of London known as the "Agas" map and overlays it with references to people, places, topics and terms to provide a virtual visit of Shakespeare-era London. The Atlantic's CityLab featured the map this week. **mapoflondon.uvic.ca/dev/agas.htm**



The France of Hugo and Flaubert

You may need to brush up on your French for this one, but Cartographie littéraire de la France by the Strasbourg bookstore Ivres de Livres covers the rich literary past of not just Paris but of the country as a whole. Follow Victor Hugo (pictured) and Émile Zola through the streets of Paris, or see Normandy as Flaubert depicted it in Madame Bovary. **cartographie-litteraire.net**

San Francisco, city of Beats

The San Francisco Chronicle has created The Literary City, with references from The Kite Runner, The Joy Luck Club (by Amy Tan, pictured), The Maltese Falcon and A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius all matched to their location in the city, and a number of key Beat hangouts all given their due. **sfchronicle.com/theliterarycity**

TRAVEL NOTES CALIFORNIA TREASURE, ECO-HOTELS AND KENTUCKY'S BIGGEST PARTY

Re-opening: Hollyhock House
Architect Frank Lloyd Wright's 1921 Los Angeles landmark Hollyhock House is ready to once again welcome visitors after a $4.3 million restoration that began nearly a decade ago. Donated to the city in 1927 by the owner, oil heiress Aline Bardsdall, the 17-room, 5,000-sq. ft. concrete house is California modernism at its finest. Go online and visit Barnsdall.org for details.

Tool: Green accommodation
New, eco-conscious booking platform Green Hotel World helps you minimize your travel impact on the environment. The site lists only green-certified hotels and supports those that sustain the local community. It features a rating system so you know just how green each hotel is, and compensates for the carbon emissions of your stay by donating to MyClimate. Visit GreenHotelWorld.com.

Bucket List: The Kentucky Derby
The 141st running of "the greatest two minutes in sports" is coming up May 2. Three-year-old thoroughbreds will compete for a $2-million purse at the storied Churchill Downs, capping off a two-week party in Louisville that includes fireworks, a marathon, music and mint juleps. Don't forget to pack the seersucker suits and fancy hats. Visit KentuckyDerby.com. DOUG WALLACE

The Kentucky Derby offers a day at the races on May 2. CONTRIBUTED

metro SPORTS
Your essential daily news

Usain Bolt confirmed in Rio Thursday that the 2016 Olympics will indeed be his last

Ill will already built into series

NHL PLAYOFFS

Ducks' Kesler ready for 'dog fight' with Byfuglien, Jets

There's no history of bad blood, no reason to expect two-handed slashes or line brawls from the Winnipeg Jets and Anaheim Ducks. At least not right away.

Even though this is the only first-round series that doesn't pit two division rivals against one another, playoff hatred can build quickly.

Ryan Kesler
GETTY IMAGES

"I think it's already started," Anaheim centre Ryan Kesler said.

The NHL's divisional playoff format, now in its second season, is designed to stoke the flames of classic rivalries and start some new ones. Fortunately in this case, there's some history between players on the two teams. To no one's surprise, that starts with Kesler.

Kesler is in his first season with the Ducks, but he had plenty of playoff battles in his time with the Vancouver Canucks. You might remember him from such run-ins as the 2010 series against Dustin Byfuglien, Andrew Ladd and the Chicago Blackhawks.

Kesler was none too happy when Byfuglien taunted fans at Rogers Arena after scoring a goal in that series, and the two don't shy away from contact. Intensity in this series could ramp up quickly with Kesler versus Byfuglien.

Dustin Byfuglien's physical style of play led to a four-game suspension during the final stretch of the regular season.
JONATHAN MOORE/GETTY IMAGES

"It's playoffs," Kesler said, brushing off past hostilities. "It's a dog fight in the first round, and I don't expect anything different from their side over there. That's why I play. It's the fun time of the year."

> **It doesn't take much. Hockey's hockey. Either you like them or you don't.**
> Dustin Byfuglien on a budding rivalry between the Jets and the Ducks

The Blackhawks and Canucks played in 2009, 2010 and 2011, three series that jump-started that rivalry and may have stirred things up for the Jets and Ducks. Byfuglien was part of the 2009 and 2010 Chicago teams and said he and Kesler are "on different slates."

But he hasn't forgotten.

"Everyone's got a job to go out there and do," Byfuglien said. "It's all we can do is go out there and battle."

For the Jets, the second-most penalized team in the NHL, part of the challenge is not letting emotions get the best of them. Coach Paul Maurice said Wednesday he wasn't concerned about players crossing the line in the playoffs based on how they finished the regular season.

"There was a lot of pressure built into that run and (we) found a way," Maurice said. "When the pressure's there, I think you see more negative pieces of humans' personality come out when there's that kind of pressure, and we didn't see it. We handled it well. So I'm not expecting that to be an issue."

Still there's Kesler, the six-foot-two, 208-pound second-line centre who lives not only to produce, but get under the skin of his opponents.

"He plays mean, he plays with an edge and he's been able to put some pucks in the net for us," Ducks captain Ryan Getzlaf said. "It's something that he's going to have to play on the edge like he always does, as well as staying disciplined."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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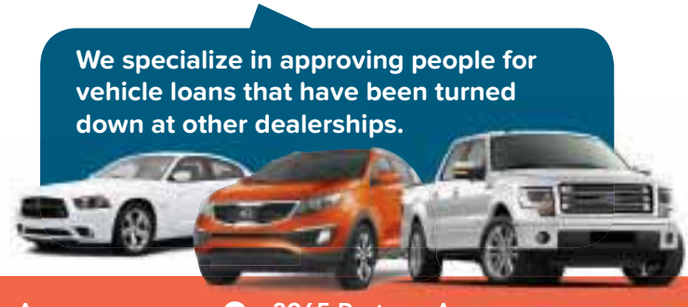

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Homer duo give troubled Twins much needed lift

MLB

Vargas and Suzuki come good to run down Royals

The Minnesota Twins were a little frustrated after their first seven games, having played about as poorly as possible.

Hitting the ball over the wall was a good way to bounce back.

Kennys Vargas and Kurt Suzuki each hit a two-run homer Thursday, powering the Twins past the Kansas City Royals 8-5 for their first series win this season.

"We have some guys that can hit the ball over the fence," manager Paul Molitor said. "We all know Target Field can be a challenge in that regard compared to some of the other parks, but we want to have a mixture: guys that hit for average, guys that can run the bases and we always welcome hitting them over the fence."

Lorenzo Cain put the Royals in front with his two-run shot in the first inning, but starter Jason Vargas (1-1) was shelled. He gave up 10 hits and a walk, failing to get an out in the fourth and leaving with a 5-3 deficit.

Minnesota's Vargas sure had his Kansas City foe, no relation, figured out. The burly switch-hitter hit a line drive in the second off the ribbon scoreboard that serves as the facade of the second deck above left field to tie the game.

"You have to tip your cap. You miss inside, and he's still able turn on it and keep it fair," Jason Vargas said. "After that they were just able to bleed us out."

With Oswaldo Arcia's two-run home run Wednesday, the Twins went deep three times in two days after hitting only two homers in their first seven games. They're still last in the American League, but the productive swings by Vargas were a good sign.

In the third inning, two batters after a groundout gave Joe Mauer the first of his three RBIs, Kennys Vargas crushed a full-count changeup to the left-centre gap that Cain grabbed with a smooth lunging catch to limit the damage.

Vargas has 10 career home runs, but this was only his second as a right-hander. That's his natural side, but he has so far displayed more power hitting left. Vargas played first base Thursday for the first time this season.

"It's a little bit different, but it's my job," Vargas said.

Tommy Milone (2-0) did his job, despite the rough start, by logging 5 1-3 innings and keeping the lead.

Cain went 3 for 4 with three runs and three RBIs and Mike Moustakas and Salvador Perez each had two hits for the Royals, but Milone minimized their threats.

He allowed seven hits and three walks before ceding to five relievers. Brian Duensing gave up two runs in a rocky start to the ninth, but Glen Perkins got the last two outs for his second save.

The season-high 14 hits sure came in handy. Five Twins had two or more hits, including Torii Hunter who went 3 for 5. The Twins even spoiled the perfect run by the Royals bullpen, after 23 1-3 scoreless innings to start the season.

"The guys had my back today, especially scoring right after they scored in the first inning. You kind of get that breath of fresh air to go back out there," Milone said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twins shortstop Danny Santana, right, leaps to avoid Kansas City Royals' Jarrod Dyson during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Minneapolis. The Twins won 8-5. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THURSDAY IN MINNY

8	5
TWINS	ROYALS

CAIN'S RISE

Cain has two homers this year, after going deep only 17 times in 358 major league games entering the season. With his speed, brilliant defence and batting average that's up to .429, the MVP of the American League championship series has fast become one of Kansas City's most indispensable players.

MLB

Lackey inspires St. Louis

John Lackey threw seven scoreless innings and Matt Carpenter doubled twice, helping the St. Louis Cardinals to a 4-0 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday.

Lackey (1-0) gave up five hits, struck out eight and walked one. Lackey, who allowed a pair of two-run homers in six innings in his most recent start, faced the Brewers for just the fourth time in his career. St. Louis took a 2-0 lead on two doubles and two singles in the sixth inning.

Carpenter doubled to right to begin the sixth inning. With one out, Matt Holliday hit a 3-2 pitch up the middle for a run-scoring single. Holiday stole second and went to third on Jhonny Peralta's single. Mark Reynolds hit an RBI double to centre, but Peralta was thrown out trying to score. Neal Cotts relieved and retired pinch-hitter Randal Grichuk.

Brewers starter Mike Fiers (0-2) allowed seven hits in 5 2-3 innings. St. Louis added a run in the seventh with two outs. Carpenter doubled home Kolten Wong, who had doubled with one out. The Cardinals made it 4-0 in the eighth when Yadier Molina hit an RBI single to score Grichuk, who doubled with two outs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cardinals pitcher John Lackey GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Peterson reinstated after abuse charge

The NFL has reinstated Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson, clearing the way for him to return after missing most of last season while facing child abuse charges in Texas.

The league announced its decision on Thursday. Commissioner Roger Goodell sent Peterson a letter advising him of his reinstatement. Goodell wrote that Peterson will have to fulfil all the obligations of his plea deal with authorities after he reached a plea deal to reduce a felony charge to a misdemeanour.

Goodell also told Peterson he would have to continue attending counselling while adhering to the league's new personal conduct policy to avoid further discipline.

Peterson's agent has said the star running back wants to play elsewhere next season. But the Vikings say they have no plans to trade him. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Strong return for Phelps
Michael Phelps qualified fastest in the 100-metre butterfly Thursday at his first meet in eight months. The 18-time Olympic gold medallist touched first in 52.92 seconds at the meet in a Phoenix suburb. Phelps has returned to competition for the first time since serving a six-month suspension for his second drunken driving arrest. It's his first meet since the Pan Pacific Championships last August. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rose's 3-year wait is over
Derrick Rose has no interest in looking back, in discussing what might have been. All that matters is that the Chicago Bulls open the playoffs at home Saturday against Milwaukee and he expects to be in the lineup. It will be a moment three years in the making. Not since the 2012 playoff opener has Rose appeared in a post-season game. "It'll be fun," Rose said. "It'll give me a chance to go out here and battle with my teammates in the playoffs." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Ujiri bites lip after Pierce's trash talk

Masai Ujiri is hanging onto his cash this time around.

The Raptors general manager, who famously dropped a costly F-bomb in a pre-game rally before last season's NBA playoffs, bit his tongue Thursday when asked what he thought about Paul Pierce's verbal shot at Toronto. But his silence spoke volumes.

"I've been trying to figure that out and I honestly don't have enough money to respond to him," said Ujiri, who was fined $25,000 for his slur against the Brooklyn Nets last season. "I think if I did have enough money, everybody knows exactly how I would respond to it, and how the whole of Toronto would respond to it."

The Raptors host the Washington Wizards on Saturday in Game 1 of a playoff series that — thanks to Pierce — already has drama and a villain before the first ball has been thrown up. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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OMG: PAINLESS BLOOD TESTS MAY BE COMING SOON

A device the size of a ping-Pong ball that extracts blood when held against the skin might soon replace needles, according to representatives from Tasso Inc., a company that is working closely with the University of Wisconsin-Madison on the project.

Rather than pulling the blood from veins, which are closed channels, the device pulls it from the open channels in which blood flows through many microscopic vessels called capillaries.

During the two minutes it takes to collect the blood, a delicate vacuum creates capillary action, beckoning blood to flow into an attached container that's lab-ready.

The patient should feel no pain, reports say.

Called microfluidics, the technology springboards on the forces that govern the flow of tiny fluid streams, according to Ben Casavant, vice-president and co-founder of Tasso, Inc.

"At these scales, surface tension dominates over gravity, and that keeps the blood in the channel no matter how you hold the device," says Casavant.

At present, the device is able to pull 0.15 of a cubic centimetre, which makes it practical for testing cholesterol, infection, cancer cells and blood sugar, although diabetes is not an initial market due to the frequency of tests needed.

A technique for taking samples to diagnose HIV is in the works, according to the company. AFP

Today's horoscope

The planets have moved in your favour. Get a second opinion and find a safe and reliable vehicle that fits your budget.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You have no intention of giving in just because someone in a position of power is on your case. Anyone who thinks you will just roll over and play dead today will learn the hard way that you can bite as well as bark.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
A few days from now the Sun will move into your birth sign and a new solar year will begin. Conserve your energy today and over the weekend – because you are going to need it very soon.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Someone you meet while on the move will be fun but are they trustworthy? The planets warn that you must not let your guard down because if you give away a secret about yourself today it won't be long before everyone knows about it.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
People come to you with their problems all the time, which is nice in a way, but unless you want the entire day to be taken up listening to sob stories you will need to draw a line.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Push any problems you have on the work front to one side and promise yourself that you will deal with them next week. The Sun's change of signs on Monday will sweep them all away and you won't actually have to do anything yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Life may not be a bundle of fun at the moment but don't worry about it. The Sun moves in your favour in a few days time and once it does the smile will return to your face.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Have a good time today. Go out and enjoy yourself. But watch how much you spend and watch who you spend it on, because some of your so-called friends will bleed you dry if you let them.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Time spent planning is rarely time wasted, so find room in your busy schedule to look ahead and plan what you are going to be doing when the Sun moves into your opposite sign next week. Make it something you can do with other people.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Look for a compromise solution to a dispute. Yes, you may honestly believe that you are blameless and that the other party should admit that fact and make concessions but it isn't going to happen.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't let anyone tell you that certain things cannot be done. What seems difficult, maybe even impossible, at this moment in time will become much easier when the Sun changes signs on Monday.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
No matter how settled and secure you feel at the moment something will shake you up a bit over the next few days and that's good. It was never your destiny to take the easy or the quiet route through life.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Let someone you respect and admire know how much they mean to you. You have benefited a lot from their advice and assistance in recent weeks and it is only right that you acknowledge that fact.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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RECIPE Light Fettuccine Alfredo with Smoked Salmon and Dill

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add the fettuccine and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until just tender. Add asparagus during last 2 minutes. Drain and place in a large serving bowl. Cover to keep warm.

2. Meanwhile, in a saucepan off the heat, combine the stock, evaporated milk, mustard, pepper and garlic. Slowly whisk in the flour until smooth. Place the saucepan over medium heat and bring to a slight boil. Reduce the heat and simmer, whisking constantly for 4 to 5 minutes or until slightly thickened. Remove from the heat and whisk in the cream cheese and 4 Tbsp of the Parmesan cheese, whisking just until the cheese is melted.

3. Pour over pasta, add salmon, dill and remaining 2 Tbsp Parmesan cheese.

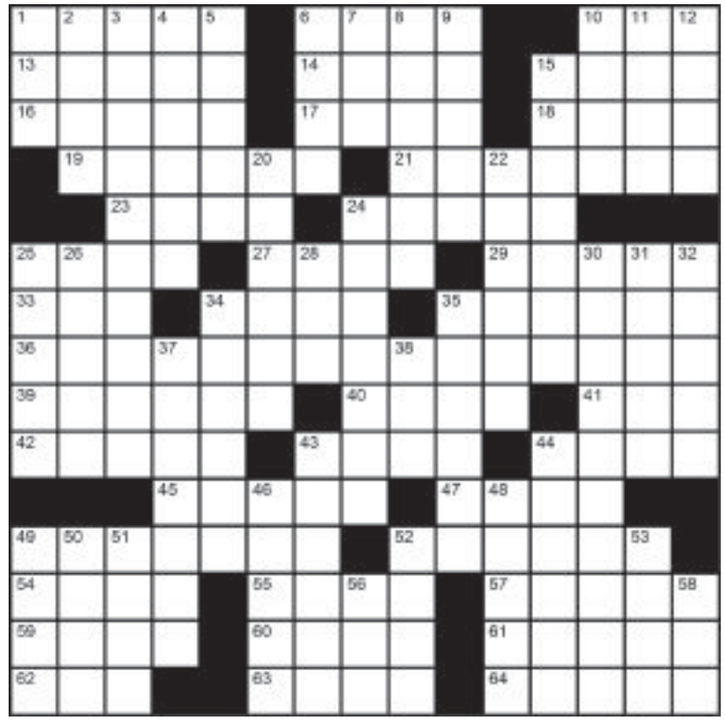
Ingredients
Serves 4
- 1/2 lb fettuccine
- 8 thin asparagus stalks, trimmed and cut into small pieces
- 1 cup cold chicken (or vegetable) stock
- 3/4 cup canned evaporated milk (2%)
- 1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 2 Tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup light cream cheese (about 2 oz)
- 6 Tbsp grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 2 oz sliced smoked salmon
- 2 Tbsp chopped dill

Nutritional information per serving
- Calories 375
- Protein 20 g
- Carbohydrates 55 g
- Fibre 2.9 g
- Total fat 7 g
- Saturated fat 3.4 g
- Cholesterol 15 mg
- Sodium 390 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
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15. Gather
16. Debonair
17. Respiratory organ
18. Whale movie
19. Scornful
21. City in the North Cariboo area of BC
23. Grim
24. "The Brothers McMullen" (1995) star Edward
25. Falling out
27. Gin flavouring
29. Homemade salad dressing ingredient
33. Antacid brand
34. "The Secret of __ Inish" (1994)
35. Ground corn food staple
36. Now on stage at the Canadian Opera Company, The __ __ __ (More at #15-Down!)
39. Like a broken promise
40. King Eurytus' daughter whose hand in marriage was offered as an archery prize
41. Pot's top
42. Electrical pioneer Nikola
43. About: 2 wds.
44. Reuben breads
45. City in northern France
47. Tart
49. Capital of Iraq
52. The Skipper's vessel, with S.S.
54. Bread spread
55. Shield's centre knob
57. Painter Mr. Degas
59. Rush, office-style
60. Bug killer brand
61. Ms. Graff of "Mr. Belvedere"
62. Hill kind
63. Baie-Sainte-__, NB
64. The Red __ (RCMP dress uniform)

DOWN
1. Li'l reply
2. French pronoun
3. Largest city in BC's Boundary Country: 2 wds.
4. "Oh, puh-leeze.": 2 wds.
5. TLC's "Untold Stories of __ _ _"
6. With competence
7. Romanian currency
8. Chequing account place, in Quebec
9. Prognosticate
10. Common plant
11. Dainty fabric
12. Ring stone
15. Composer of the opera buffa at #36-Across
20. Luxurious locale
22. Salad ingredient
24. Built blaze
25. Counter, as a debater
26. Absurd
28. Philosopher, __-tzu
30. Pirate ship flag: 2 wds.
31. Slapstick comic Mr. Hardy, to fans
32. Requires
34. Covered the debt
35. USA: Congresswoman, Nancy __
37. Hotel lobby worker
38. HELP!
43. Neil Young song that goes: "I'm a lot like you were.": 2 wds.
44. __ Park, in Edmonton
46. Ms. Dern of "Wild" (2014)
48. Three Dog Night song bit: "__ __ the loneliest number..."
49. Ship
50. Too
51. Equipment
52. Fashion
53. Vera of wedding gowns
56. Trash-putting locale
58. Des'__, British R&B singer

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